Ashton-under-Lyne Town Centre Strategy

Supplementary Planning Document

Consultation Statement

This statement has been prepared in order to comply with the requirements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, for the adoption of Supplementary Planning Documents by Local Planning Authorities.

Published by

Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council Planning and Building Control

November 2009

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 local authorities are requirement to prepare and publish a Consultation Statement for a range of planning policy documents, including Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD's). This is a reflection of Government's desire to "strengthen community and stakeholder involvement in the development of local communities" The Council formally adopted a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) on 11th July 2006, which sets out how the public will be consulted on new planning policy and significant planning applications. As the Statement of Community Involvement is now adopted, all such planning documents will be required to conform to its provisions.
- This Consultation Statement has been prepared following the adoption of the Statement of Community Involvement, and aims to reflect the intentions of Government planning guidance for reporting on community involvement in the plan making process. It describes the involvement of stakeholders, the community, voluntary organisations and statutory consultees in the preparation of the Ashton-under-Lyne Town Centre Strategy Planning Document Scoping Report, which was the forerunner to the Supplementary Planning Document. The Scoping report was made available during a period of formal public consultation in July 2006 for five weeks, and was also made available to view alongside the Supplementary Planning Document and the Sustainability Appraisal Report, in accordance with the appropriate regulations²⁷ during the 4 week period of public consultation.

2.0 <u>Scoping Report Consultation</u>

- 2.1 Work on the preparation of the Scoping Report began in July 2006 when it became clear there was a need to provide guidance to aid and steer development within Ashton Town Centre. The Supplementary Planning Document aims to enhance relevant policies within the Tameside UDP with more detailed development principles.
- 2.2 A Scoping Report was circulated round internal departments of the Council for comment during July 2006 and an amended version was produced for targeted public consultation on 26th July 2006, after consultation with the Cabinet Deputy of Technical Services.
- 2.3 Consultation on the Scoping Report began on the 31st July 2006 and lasted for five weeks until 4th September 2006. A list of consultees and their comments is included in appendix 1.

²⁶ "Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Development Frameworks", Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, 2004, paragraph 1.3 (iii).

²⁷ "Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004", ODPM 2003

3.0 Officer and Member Consultation

- 3.1 Prior to the public consultation stage internal consultation of the draft SPD was undertaken with Council Officers and key members of the Council to ensure a robust and accurate draft document has been produced.
- 3.2 An Officers workshop event was held on 19th May 2006 to draw down potential issues and opportunities the Ashton Town Centre Strategy may acknowledge and address through its eventual adoption and implementation. This was followed by the consultation of a first draft document on 19th October 2006. Details of these are in appendix 3.
- Following Officer consultation a series of consultations were carried out with key Members of the Council. Initial consultation was with Councillor Quinn, (Cabinet Deputy for Economic Services), Councillor Whitehead (Cabinet Deputy for Technical Services) and the Leader of the Council, Councillor Oldham, followed by presentations to the Ashton Ward Members. Those Members unable to attend the presentations were emailed a copy of the document, enabling them to comment on it. Responses received from these Member exercises were positive.
- 3.4 The draft Supplementary Planning Document was finalised during July and August 2009 taking full account of the consultation responses from the Scoping report, and the consultation workshops with Officers and Members of the Council.

4.0 Consultation of draft Supplementary Planning Document

- 4.1 The draft Supplementary Planning Document was the subject of a 4 week formal public consultation from Monday 21st September until Monday 19th October 2009. The SPD together with its accompanying documents were placed on the Council's website, with reference copies were made available at Customer Services Centres and libraries in Ashton, Denton, Droylsden, Hattersley, Hyde, Stalybridge, Longdendale and Mossley; libraries in Ashton, Haughton Green, Hurst, Newton and West End; and in the Planning and Building Control Department at the Council Offices in Ashton.
- 4.2 In order to inform the public, groups, businesses and organisations the consultation was taking place a public notice was placed in the Tameside Report (appendix 6) and a presentation was given to the Ashton District Assembly meeting on 22nd September. Allied with this an email or letter was sent to individuals or organisations on the Local Development Framework mailing list, informing them of where they could views the SPD documents and how to submit comments. Details of consultees are given in appendix 2 (Member), 4 & 5.
- 4.3 Consultees were informed that any comments they wished to make had to be submitted in writing or email to the Council by Tuesday 20th October at 9.00 a.m. By this deadline period the Council had received 9 responses and 4 responses were received within a day of the consultation ending. Due to the

relevance of the late comments received, the Council has decided to consider these with the other 9 responses; resulting in a total of 13 consultation responses.

4.4 On completion of the consultation period, all the responses were gathered, read and assessed and a précis of the main points produced during October and November 2009, which is presented in appendix 7, together with any changes made to the final SPD as a result of the comments received, following agreement by key Council Officers and Councillors.

Appendix 1 - Scoping Report Distribution List - Statutory Consultees

To fulfil the requirements of Stage A5 in the Sustainability Appraisal process the Scoping Report was sent to the following consultation bodies:

List of Consultees	Email (E), Letter (L), Document (D)
English Nature	L,D
Countryside Agency	L,D
Environment Agency	L,D
English Heritage	L,D
Government Office for the	L,D
North West	
North West Regional	L,D
Assembly	
North West Regional	L,D
Development Agency	
Manchester City Council	L,D
Stockport Council	L,D
High Peak Borough Council	L,D
Oldham Council	L,D

Scoping Report Consultation responses

Four responses were received during the consultation period of the scoping report.

- The Environment Agency felt the overall objectives and criteria outlined in A, B & C appear to address their environmental concerns.
- The Government Office for the North West made no comments at this stage.
- The North West Regional Development Agency had no comments at this stage.
- English Nature made the following comments related to the SA of the LDF Core Strategy and Hattersley AAP Draft Scoping Report, rather than the Ashton SPD Scoping Report.

Paragraph 12 – four points, a – d address biodiversity but there is ambiguity in some of the terms used. The term 'endangered' for example is not clearly defined. There is some repetition of the concept and the term 'wildlife' can be ambiguous.

Appendix 2 - List of Member Consultees for Draft Supplementary Planning Document

Councillor Consultee List - (E- Email, L-Letter, D-Document)

AMBLER, Richard	E
BAINES, Derek	E
BEELEY, Basil	E
BELL, John S	E
BOWDEN, Helen	E
BRAY, Warren	E
BRAZIL, Jean	E
BRELSFORD, Wendy	E
BUCKLEY, David	E
CARTER, Valerie	E
CARTWRIGHT, Dorothy	E
COONEY, Gerald P	E
DAVIS, Jack	E
DICKINSON, Doreen	E
DOUBLEDAY, Andrew	E
DOWNS, Margaret E	E
DOWNS, Walter	E
ETCHELLS, Ann	E
ETCHELLS, Roy	E
FITZPATRICK, James M	E
FITZPATRICK, Philip M	E
GWYNNE, Allison	E
HARRISON, William	E
HIGHTON, Andrew	E
HOLLAND, Ann J	E
HOLLAND, Barrie	E
KELLY, John	E
KITCHEN, Joseph A.P.	E
LANE, Dawson	E
LANE, Jackie	E
MIDDLETON, James	E
OLDHAM, S Roy	E
PARKER-PERRY, Sean	E
PATRICK, Clive	E
PIDDINGTON, Catherine M	E
QUINN, Kieran	Ē
QUINN, Susan	E
REYNOLDS, Jonathan	E
RICCI, Vincent	Ē
ROBERTS, George	E
ROBINSON, Peter J	Ē
SHORROCK, Eileen	Ē
SIDEBOTTOM, Margaret C	E
SMITH, Michael	E
,	l .

SMITH, Stephen	Ш
SULLIVAN, John	E
SWEETON, David	E
TAYLOR, John C	Ш
TRAVIS, Lynn	Ш
WAREING, Martin	Ш
WARRINGTON, Brenda	E
WELSH, Kevin	E
WELSH, Ruth	E
WHITE, Colin	E
WHITEHEAD, J Alan	E
WHITLEY, Michael	E
WILD, Brian	E

<u>Appendix 3 – Officer Consultation</u>

Internal Consultation on the draft Supplementary Planning Document

The draft Supplementary Planning Document was circulated internally (via email) for comments on 19th October 2007 for a period of twelve working days to the following departments within the Council:

- Corporate Services
- Education & Cultural Services
- Housing
- Highways & Engineers
- Economic Development
- Planning & Building Control
- Development & technical Directorate
- Sport & Cultural Services
- Town Centre Marketing
- Head of Service Development & Technical
- Town Centre Management
- Legal Services
- Assistant Executive Director Development & Technical
- Estates & Valuation

Comments were received from the Property Services Department and Ashton Regeneration. Unfortunately Ashton Regeneration comments were received past the comment deadline. As such, they will be considered during this wider consultation stage. Property Services comments where fed into the draft document.

Topics & outcomes from the Officer workshop

In order to help focus discussion at this initial stage, broad topic groups were used. The outcomes of which are as follows:

Culture, Heritage & Leisure

Issues

- Ashton needs to be successfully adopted as the capital of Tameside with a town centre mirroring this creation of identity & 'place'
- Investment perceptions of Ashton need to be improved to encourage new & different uses into the town centre – cafes / restaurants / venues
- Key strategies need to link to deliver shared goals cultural & night-time / evening economy

Opportunities

- Develop identity and improve perceptions of the town engage people through culture
- Develop and maximise key buildings and spaces to create identity
 - Market & market square
 - Cultural quarter linked to St Petersfield and Hugh Mason House
 - Old Town
 - Portland Basin & Canal
- Create a focus for young people

Monopolise existing assets

Environment & Public Realm

Issues

- Inconsistent materials palette applied through town
- Poor maintenance / durability of landscape systems
- A defined high quality materials palette is required to create identity
- Poor quality gateways into the town centre, particularly from the north and east
- Barriers to effective permeability & vistas southern bypass, inappropriate developments, dominance of roads
- On-street parking in Old Town requires policing
- The evening economy of the town needs greater promotion
- High levels of street clutter

Opportunities

- Creation of boulevard encouraging pedestrian movement between Ikea area and town centre
- Development of high quality sequence of public spaces & routes
- Linking the canal & Portland Basin to town centre via St Petersfield and Old Town
- Creation of new market square impetus for public realm improvements
- Reduction in street cluttering through effective, considered public realm palette & strategy
- Promotion of evening economy allied with development of town centre residential
- Effective / direct pedestrian links across primary road routes

Transport

Issues

- On street parking and high price of public car parks
- Poor distribution of car parks greater provision is required within the south and east
- Severing effect of primary roads Park Parade, Wellington Rd, Cavendish Rd
 Oldham Rd
- Concentration of public transport within north east of town centre
- Old town lacks public transport and footfall drawn from its presence

Opportunities

- Creation of car parks to help feed the old town
- Creation of multi-modal transport routes, with effective pedestrian movement at its core
- Utilising the proposed transport interchange and rail station and its proximity to the town centre
- Aiding the vitality of Old Town through selective siting of new public car park/s
- Metro link aiding investment

Land-use and Development

Issues

- Need for increased retail & town centre uses in the core town centre
- Residential decline in the surrounding areas

- Delamere is a visually run-down area creating a barrier between the town centre and its residential neighbours
- Concentration of vehicular movement congestion, north/south traffic, barriers
- Old town is failing to maximise its historic character
- Wellington Road Council offices are utilising a key town centre site

Opportunities

- Encourage redevelopment of 'Delamere' area as a mixed use transition between residential, office and town centre uses
- Promotion of a mixed-use town centre with increased residential aiding the viability of the evening economy, particularly within the Old Town area
- Creating an improved relationship between vehicular and non vehicular transport, with effective pedestrian permeability at its core
- Relocation of Council offices releasing a key town centre development site
- Maximise on the key developments under way or proposed to ensure further investment in the town centre
- Quality of the historic environment; opportunity to create a unique town centre district
- Increased waterside development merging of St Petersfield and Portland Basin
- Gateway improvements through application of high quality design creating landmark buildings and structures.

Appendix 4 - Specific Consultation Bodies Consulted on the Draft SPD

The following list of consultation bodies are those identified in Appendix G of the adopted Tameside Statement of Community Involvement.

- The Regional Planning Body The North West Regional Assembly
- A relevant authority any part of whose area is in or adjoins the area of the local planning authority:
 - Derbyshire County Council;
 - Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council;
 - Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council;
 - Peak District National Park Authority;
 - o High Peak Borough Council;
 - Manchester City Council;
 - Mossley Town Council;
 - Saddleworth Parish Council;
 - o Tintwistle Parish Council;
 - o Charlesworth Parish Council; and
 - Chisworth Parish Council.
- The Countryside Agency²⁸
- The Environment Agency
- The Highways Agency
- The Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (English Heritage)
- English Nature²⁹
- Network Rail
- A Regional Development Agency whose are is in or adjoins the area of the local planning authority – North West Development Agency, East Midlands Development Agency
- Any person to whom the electronic communications code applies by virtue of a direction given under Section 106 (3)(a) of the Communications Act 2003: British Telecommunications
- Any person who owns or controls electronic communications apparatus situated in any part of the area of the local planning authority: Mobile Operators Association, Vodafone Ltd, One2One Personal Communications Ltd, O2 (UK) Ltd, Orange Personal Communications Services Ltd
- Any of the bodies from the following list who are exercising functions in any part of the area of the local planning authority:
 - I. Strategic Health Authority Greater Manchester Strategic Health Authority
 - II. Person to whom a license has been granted under sec 7(2) of the Gas Act 1986 Transco North West
 - III. Sewage undertaker United Utilities Properties Limited and United Utilities Service delivery
 - IV. Water undertaker: United Utilities Properties Limited and United Utilities Service delivery

²⁸ The Countryside Agency merged with English Nature in October 2006 to form Natural England which is now a statutory consultee.

²⁹ English Nature merged with the Countryside Agency in October 2006 to form Natural England which is now a statutory consultee.

- Government Departments:
 - Department for Constitutional Affairs;
 - o Department of Culture, Media and Sport;
 - o Government Office for the North West (GONW);
 - Defence Estate Organisation (Ministry of Defence);
 - Department for Work and Pensions;
 - o Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs;
 - o The Home Office:
 - o Office of Government Commerce;
 - o Department for Education and Skills (through GONW);
 - Department of Transport (through GONW);
 - o Department for Health (through the regional public health group);
 - Department for Trade and Industry³⁰

 30 The Department for Trade and Industry was replaced by the Department for Business Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (BERR) in 2007

Appendix 5 - General and Other Consultees

General consultation bodies are those identified in Appendix G of the adopted Tameside Statement of Community Involvement:

- Voluntary bodies, some or all of whose activities benefit any part of the authority's area:
- Bodies which represent the interests of different racial, ethnic or national groups in the authority's area;
- Bodies which represent the interests of different religious groups in the authority's area:
- Bodies which represent the interests of disabled persons in the authority's area; and
- Bodies which represent the interests of persons carrying on business in the authority's area.

Other consultees are those identified in Appendix G of the adopted Tameside Statement of Community Involvement:

- (a) Age Concern;
- (b) Airport operators: Manchester Airport;
- (c) British Chemical Distributors Association:
- (d) British Geological Survey;
- (e) British Waterways, canal owners and navigation authorities;
- (f) Centre for Ecology and Hydrology;
- (g) Chambers of Commerce, Local CBI and local branches of the Institute of Directors:
- (h) Church Commissioners;
- (i) Civil Aviation Authority;
- (j) Coal Authority;
- (k) Commission of Architecture and the Built Environment;
- (I) Commission for New Towns and English Partnerships;
- (m) Commission for Racial Equality;
- (n) Crown Estate Office:
- (o) Diocesan Board of Finance;
- (p) Disability Rights Commission;
- (q) Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee;
- (r) Electricity, Gas and Telecommunications undertakers, and the National Grid Company;

- (s) Environmental groups at national, regional and local level, including:Campaign to Protect of Rural England³¹:
 - i. Friends of the Earth;
 - ii. Royal Society for the Protection of Birds; and
 - iii. Wildlife Trusts.
- (t) Equal Opportunities Commission
- (u) Fire and Rescue Services
- (v) Forestry Commission
- (w) Freight Transport Association
- (x) Gypsy Council
- (y) Health and Safety Executive
- (z) Help the Aged
- (aa) Housing Corporation
- (bb) Learning and Skills Council
- (cc) Local Agenda 21 bodies including:
 - i. Civic Societies;
 - ii. Community Groups:
 - iii. Local Transport Authorities:
 - iv. Local Transport Operators; and
 - v. Local Race Equality
 Councils and other local
 equality groups.

³¹ Formerly The Council for the Protection of Rural England

- (dd) National Playing Fields Association
- (ee) Network Rail
- (ff) Passenger Transport
 Authorities: Greater
 Manchester Passenger
 Transport Executive
- (gg) Passenger Transport Executives
- (hh) Police Architectural Liaison Officers/Crime Prevention Design Advisors
- (ii) Port Operators
- (jj) Post Office Property Holdings
- (kk) Rail Companies and Rail Freight Group
- (II) Regional Development Agencies
- (mm) Regional Housing Boards
- (nn) Regional Sports Boards
- (oo) Road Haulage Association
- (pp) Sport England
- (qq) The House Builders Federation
- (rr) Transport for London
- (ss) Traveller Law Reform Coalition
- (tt) Water Companies
- (uu) Women's National Commission
- (vv) Council for British
 - Archaeology
- (ww) Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit

Appendix 6 - Public Notice

Public notice from the Tameside Reporter 17th September 2009.

3 1910 Editorial Glossop: 01457 852669 www.tamesidereporter.com **Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council** Draft Ashton Town Centre Strategy Supplementary Planning Document **Public Notice Inviting Representations** Regulation 17 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 **Planning and Building Control** rust ting Oth Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council gives notice that it has published the above draft supplementary planning document for public consultation The Draft Ashton Town Centre Strategy SPD covers the central part of Ashtonunder-Lyne and provides specific planning guidance for Ashton town centre to aid alth ore will developers submitting planning applications and support the economic growth of the town centre. ality The main aims and objectives of the document are as follows: vith - Create clear and detailed planning policy guidance to promote and guide the continued regeneration of Ashton Town Centre. hts Encourage the creation of a high quality urban environment. ital э a Promote the positive development of under utilised / vacant properties and land. Guide developers on the use mixes likely to be ing our encouraged or permitted within the town centre of Ashton. as Aid the regeneration of Old Town. Provide land-use guidance for potential developers, with specific reference to urban design principles, desired uses, ind public realm, transport and parking. ad The draft SPD is subject to a period of public consultation from Monday 21st September to Monday 19th October during which period we will receive representations. The consultation period will end at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday 20th October 2009. We cannot accept late Representations should be in writing and sent by post to The Strategic Planning Office, Rm 1.41, Tameside Council Offices, Ashton-Under-Lyne, Tameside, OL6 6DL or FAX to 0161 342 2837 or by email to <u>Planpolicy@tameside.gov.uk</u>. Any submitted representations will be available for public inspection at the Council D Offices on closure of the consultation period. If you wish to be notified of the adoption of the Supplementary Planning Document ABC then please let us know and provide an address to which representations may be aps, The draft Ashton Town Centre Strategy SPD and supporting documents (including And the consultation statement) will be available for inspection from Monday 21st September on the Council's website at http://www.tameside.gov.uk/planning blic the Tameside Council Offices, Planning and Building Control, Council Offices, Wellington Road, Ashton-under-Lyne, ınd ted Tameside, OL6 6DL. tp: k/ Opening times: Monday to Wednesday - 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Thursday - 9.00 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Friday - 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. ip. not The draft SPD is also available for inspection at: lay Tameside Customer Service Centres
 Libraries in Tameside MBC 1er he 0n Details of locations and opening times can be obtained: Da on the Council website <u>www.tameside.gov.uk</u> by telephoning the Customer Service Centre (Tel: 0161 342 8355) by emailing customer.services@tameside.gov.uk

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Appendix 7 - Summary of Consultation comments on the consultation draft SPD

The following section summarises the main comments received during the four week statutory consultation period during September and October 2009.

The summary is presented in tabular form for ease of understanding – amendments to the SPD text are shown in red and deleted text is shown in red strikethrough.

If required you may see the original consultation comments – please contact the Strategic Planning team to arrange on Tel: 0161 342 2750.

Comment	Response	Amendment to SPD
ASPDR-01 - UK Association of	Tameside have taken part in the Greater	
Gypsy Women	Manchester Assessment of the needs of Gypsies	
I have quickly looked over some of	and Travellers/Show people which has shown a	
the SPD but, can you tell me if the	potential requirement for additional pitches for	
council have any plans for Gypsy	show people and some provision of pitches for	
Sites in the area? I would appreciate	Gypsies and Travellers. Tameside accepts the	
any info you could furnish me with.	findings of the assessment and will consider in	
	partnership with other Greater Manchester	No change
	Authorities how we meet the assessed needs. Our	
	Core Strategies and our new Housing Strategy	
	will reflect these needs and how we progress the	
	matter. The possible locations of sites and how	
	they could be provided are issues the Council has	
	not yet considered; therefore it is not covered by	
	the SPD.	
ASPDR-02 - Shire Consulting on	The Tameside Core Strategy, once produced will	The following revision will be inserted into the SPD:
behalf of Barclays Bank	replace the Tameside UDP and its policies	
At paragraph 2.1 the draft SPD	including S4. As such, it's recommended this	2.2 Retail
accepts that "In order for this	issue be raised during the consultation of this	
document to successfully aid the	primary document. An SPD can only build on	2.5 Allied with the town's existing retail provision, the Council
regeneration of Ashton Town Centre	existing policies, not revise or propose new ones.	acknowledges the role its high street banks play in contributing to the
it must acknowledge the issues		town's use mix, creating active frontage and aiding footfall, especially
facing the town centre and focus on	Ashton's primary shopping area contains at least	those located in Old Town.
trying to remedy or overcome them."	6 banks and the Council acknowledges the	
The bank believes that one of the	importance banks play in providing a diverse town	
critical issues that must be	centre.	
addressed is the outmoded and out-		
of-date approach towards A2 uses in	The 'Old Town' section of the SPD highlights the	
'shopping frontages' in policy S4 of	'presence of high street banks' as a key asset.	
the UDP and its supporting		
paragraphs. The Council's restrictive		

approach to anything other than A1 uses is not really explained or		
properly justified but appears to be		
based on the erroneous assumption		
that anything other than A1 is likely		
to reduce vitality and viability. This		
fails to reflect the reality of the		
important role played by financial		
services retailers such as the bank in		
promoting vitality, underpinning town		
centres and assisting in		
regeneration.		
ASPDR-03 - Collier CRE on behalf of Bollinwater Estates LLP		
Comments have been received on a		
number of the sections within		
'Portland Basin':		
r ordana Baomi		
Development Aspirations	No comment	No change
"We support the aspirations put		
forward by the Council."		
Desired Uses	SPD's cannot designate specific land uses to	1. No change
1. "the Council need to be more	plots or areas of land. It can only suggest land	
explicit with regard to the area being	uses as the SPD has done, with commercial being	2. No change
referred to (for commercial uses) in	suggested as an appropriate use for plots	
the draft SPD. In our opinion the land	adjacent to Park Parade (referring to the land /	3. The following amendments will be made:
between Victoria Street / Hill Street	plots between Park Parade & Victoria Street & Hill	
and Park Parade is the logical area	Street).	Development Aspirations
for commercial uses."	2. The Council agrees with this comment and	5.2 Portland Basin should become a high quality water side 'quarter',
2. "The existing buildings to south of	hopes that through appropriate redevelopment	linking to the Markets Quarter via St Petersfield, with high quality
Park Parade are not attractive and make no contribution to the quality of	(aided by the SPD) this area will improve. 3. The SPD currently suggests residential	developments that maximises its water space assets with high quality development, encompassing with a range of appropriate uses
the built environment. This must be	(excluding the northern area), commercial with	(including residential moorings) and activity.
addressed if the strategy for the town	ancillary leisure, retail and tourism uses for the	(including residential moonings) and activity.
is to be successful."	area as a whole. The Council would support an	Desired Uses
3. "The Council should encourage	appropriate hotel as part of the leisure element.	5.3 The Council wishes to encourage mixed use development
uses such as offices, retail and	The Council would view offices as the primary	encompassing residential and commercial with ancillary leisure, retail,
hotels in the area between Victoria	element in its commercial uses. Section 5.8	hotel and tourism facilities for this area.
Str / Hill Str & Park Parade.	details the need for a pedestrian link to St	
However, development here needs	Petersfield across Park Parade as part of a public	4. No change
to be complemented with a new link	realm guidance for the 'quarter'.	

for pedestrian & cyclist use between St Petersfield & Portland Basin." 4. "north of the canal the emphasis should be on maximising the use of cultural heritage assets, complementary retail, leisure and community facilities & allowing further residential development. In our view the area has the potential to mirror the success achieved by Manchester's Castlefields albeit on a smaller scale."	4. The SPD already outlines that it would encourage mixed use developments encompassing residential and commercial with ancillary leisure, retail & tourism facilities (section 5.3) and seeks to maximise the waterside assets which is where the heritage assets are located.	
Architectural Styles / Design "We welcome the Council not being prescriptive over design issues."	No comment	No change
Scale & Mass "The Council must be careful in its application of density requirements in relation to residential development. The emphasis should be on creating a mixed and balanced community to include both high & lower density."	As an urban environment, the Council does not feel low density housing development is appropriate in the part of Portland Basin to the north of the canal. The creation of a mixed and balanced community requires a range of dwelling sizes and tenures. Densities do not necessarily deliver the same. Despite this, section 5.10 referred to, states "should be avoided", which enables some flexibility. We agree that some lower density housing may be appropriate to the south of the river.	5.10 The mass and scale of developments should reflect the urban nature of the area emphasising its urban grain and complementing its historic structures. While elements of low density housing have previously been developed, further developments of this scale these are not considered appropriate and should be avoided by future developments will be resisted. Exceptions may be considered on plots south of the canal and river, and in part, on plots neighbouring the residential uses west of Portland Basin.
Gateways & Views "Identification of client's site as having potential to create a landmark is welcomed."	No comments	No change
Potential Development Site "We welcome the identification of our client's land as a potential development site."	No comments	No change
ASPDR – 04 - The Coal Authority We suggest the following addition to Section 2: Town Centre-wide Issues: 1. "There are coal resources at shallow depth present across Ashton Town Centre. In undertaking	The Council does not feel that the extraction of coal is an appropriate activity for one of the main shopping and business centres of Tameside. The Council recommends all developers undertake appropriate land and building surveys	No change

redevelopment proposals identified in this SPD consideration should be given to extraction of those resources prior to development taking place. This not only prevents sterilisation of a valuable mineral resource, but can also remove any potential land stability issues." 2. "The eastern part of the Ashton Town Centre SPD area may be affected by former coal mining activities. The SPD therefore seeks to ensure that any redevelopment opportunity sites are investigated for mining legacy problems which, if necessary, are then appropriately treated to ensure that future developments are safe and stable." ASPDR – 05 - Ashton-under-Lyne Civic Society Overall the Ashton Civic Society support the document, with the	to ensure they're aware of any problems associated with past mining activity.	
following comments submitted:		T
Para. 2.27 possible MSCP sites are incorrectly lettered.	Council acknowledges this error	The plan at 2.27 will be revised to align with the associated table
Para. 2.16 – 2.19 A distinct lack of cultural facilities in the town centre, which would attract successful evening uses.	No comment	The following revision will be made: 2.15 2.17 Leisure & Cultural Facilities 2.16 2.18 A key element in creating a sustainable mixed-use town centre is the presence of a vibrant cultural and leisure sector. A significant proportion of this could be achieved with a successful evening economy, installing activity beyond 9 to 5 trading hours, complementing the growth of town centre residents and adding further diversity to the town's employment offer. In promoting this the Council will encourage uses such as cafes, restaurants, cultural facilities and health & fitness facilities, together with increased use of the town's swimming pool, library, museums and art gallery.
Para. 2.28 These sites are eminently suitable for development as MSCP.	No comment	No change

Para. 2.33 – 2.37 That the document emphasises the Town Centre Conservation Area as being of prime importance is to be applauded.	No comment	No change
Para. 2.29 – 2.32 Piecemeal development is to be avoided, especially by the introduction of more street clutter.	No comment	No change
Para. 4.5 – 4.7 MSCP is only appropriate on the perimeter of the area, that bounding Park Parade.	Council agrees with this comment. It will cross reference section 2.28 with sections 4.5 to 4.7.	The following revisions will be inserted into the SPD: Car Parking 4.7 A multi-storey car park(s) would provide the most appropriate parking solution for Old Town by providing increased provision within a confined footprint. Such a development must be of the highest quality ensuring it does not scar the historic character of the area. As detailed in Town Centre-wide Issues (2.30), existing surface car parks adjacent to Park Parade provide ideal locations for such developments.
Para. 4.8 completion of former Legends bar would be a pre- requisite to improving Old Square. St Michael's Square could be developed into a green space with car parking removed.	The Council supports the completion of the former Legends bar. The future of St Michael's Square could be considered by a Public Realm Strategy / Guide for the town centre.	No change
Para 4.10 – 4.11 4 storey buildings would only be appropriate where there are no light access problems.	Para. 4.11 details the need to acknowledge the scale & mass of neighbouring buildings. If residential uses are proposed, minimum privacy distances must be met.	No change
Para. 4.13 – 4.15 An opportunity to remove facades which bear no relation to surrounding buildings & distract from an aesthetic view point.	Para 4.9 and 4.10 emphasise the need for high quality design in this area.	No change
Para. 4.16 – 4.17 Strong view along Stamford Str from Old Sq to St Petersfield must be re-enforced. Car parking spaces along a primary frontage is a problem & site M presents a problem to achieving high quality landmark.	Agree strong view along Stamford Str must be retained. Although on street car parking can clutter streets the Council feels that appropriately controlled and design parking can add to street activity. In its current use site M does not represent a high quality landmark. But in the future this could change. It is felt that these comments reflect the current wording of the draft SPD.	No change

	T	
Para. 4.18 Crown buildings at site B	Council agrees with this comment, and this is one	No change
is disproportionately high within the	reason why this is highlighted as a potential	
context of Old Town	development site.	
Para. 5.8 A pedestrian link to St	The Council recognises the potential user safety	The following amendment will be made:
Petersfield across Park Parade could	problems with underpasses and would want any	
result in an underpass and	such crossing created to be at grade.	5.8
associated problems.		Pedestrian link to St Petersfield across Park Parade. A wide at-
		grade / surface pedestrian crossing to St Petersfield across Park
		Parade
Para. 6.9 The need for	Issues such as pedestrianisation could be	No change
pedestrianisation in this area is at	considered by a public realm strategy / guide for	
the core of the potential	the town centre. Applying such measures must	
development.	not hinder appropriate development.	
Para. 6.14 – 6.18 A necessary &	No comment	No change
forward looking appraisal of the		
needs of that area.		
Para. 7.5 Car parking from primary	The Council would agree that any new car parking	No change
routes should be retained.	needs to be accessible.	
Para. 7.6 – 7.7 Opportunity to	No comment	No change
sensitively develop the market		
square.		
Para. 7.8 Is not inconceivable that	It is considered that this observation supports the	No change
contemporary architectural styles	wording of the draft SPD.	
cannot be incorporated adjacent to		
existing listed buildings, provided		
new builds complement them with		
good design.		
Para. 8.1 – 8.3 continued	No comment	No change
development of St Petersfield is a		
natural progression. Hugh Mason		
House may be problematic.		
Para. 9.6 Safer & more welcoming	No comment	No change
pedestrian link to Old Town is		
paramount in developing a town		
centre park.		
Para. 10.3 – 10.6 Pedestrian access	Council agrees with the comments. The SPD	The following amendment will be made to the fifth point in 10.6:
to rail station is a priority when	acknowledges the need to improve access to the	-
northern bypass is constructed. Car	rail gateway.	Environmental improvements around the medical area and improved
parking facilities are essential for		links between the medical area and the market square.
traffic entering from the east.		
Pedestrian access to markets from		

ASPDR-06 - Tameside Archaeological Society Limited	The Council has a 'local list' of documents and assessment that must accompany planning applications. Archaeological assessments are within this list, as follows:	No change
The TAS supports the strategy proposed but would encourage the utilisation of archaeological processes in guidance given to developers or provide a desk based assessment to prevent unnecessary delays to development and enable the heritage of Ashton to be recorded.	In the case of a major development proposal or significant infrastructure works, the applicant may need to commission an assessment of existing archaeological information and submit the results as part of the Heritage Statement. Threshold • Any developments specified in preapplication advice Further guidance is provided in Planning Policy Guidance Note 15: Planning and the Historic Environment (September 1994) and Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning (November 1990). See also 'A Charter	
	for English Heritage Advisory Services' produced by English Heritage.	
Utilise the green space on the south side of the bypass with integrated car parking and storage for recreation activities.	Additional ancillary car parking could be provided in this area as ancillary to the recreation uses, but its primary role should be as a town centre park, which would be predominantly accessed on foot.	No change
ASPDR-07 - Nathaniel Lichfield & Partners on behalf of Apollo Ashton LLP The respondent's comments support a number of issues detailed within		
the SPD, but objects or partially objections to the following:	Accort comment	The following amendments will be made to the SDD:
Para. 7.5 respondent considers it appropriate for car parking to also be	Accept comment	The following amendments will be made to the SPD:

the medical centres is necessary.

provided in this sub-area as MSCP in addition to basement or roof top facilities.		Car Parking 7.5 The pedestrianised nature of the area does not allow free vehicle movement, therefore any new car parking provision can only be placed within basement or roof top facilities accessed off Wellington Street and Katherine Street areas. 7.4Due to the pedestrianised nature of the area and its well established built form, the quarter has limited opportunities for new car parking and access to it. As such car parking within 'the Markets' will only be accepted in basement, rooftop or multi storey facilities.
Para. 7.5 unnecessarily restrictive to require all new car parking provision in this quarter to be accessed from only Wellington Str & Katherine Str.	The Council accepts this comment.	See previous revisions. These incorporate this objection.
Para. 6.5 Part of the approved transport interchange lies within Delamere. As such, the respondent requests that "A transport interchange would also be an acceptable use in this quarter."	The Council accepts that outlining planning permission has been given for the transport interchange and the Metrolink to Ashton has been confirmed. The Council fully supports both Metrolink and the proposed transport interchange.	The following revisions will be applied: Desired Uses Following 6.5, creating third paragraph: 6.6 Allied with these town centre uses, the northern edge of Delamere will contain the Ashton Metrolink line and elements of the proposed transport interchange. Once developed it's hoped this transport asset will aid development in Delamere.
Para. 6.12 "In certain circumstances development of less than 3 storeys will be appropriate in Delamere. For example, the public transport interchange."	While the proposed transport interchange is below the 3 storey requirement, the Council views this as part of the Arcades extension which will be well over this requirement.	No change
Para. 6.19 "request that the north east corner of Delamere is identified as a potential development site."	Council accepts this comment	The north east area of Delamere will be highlighted as a potential development site at 6.19.
Primary Frontages The primary shopping area defined by the Tameside UDP is mainly focused on 'the Markets'. However, plans are provided within the draft SPD which identify wide spread opportunities across the town centre to extend Ashton town centre's	The Frontage sections within all 'quarters' do not refer to the primary retail frontages as detailed by the respondent. It refers to applying urban design principles related to active street frontages and not allowing blank facades to be installed along the highlighted streets. Uses such as office, education, residential, leisure & civic can provide this activity. It does not have to be a retail	'Frontage' sections within all Quarters will be renamed: Street Frontage Frontage

	T	
primary frontage in quarters	frontage.	
including Penny Meadow, St		
Petersfield & Southside. Respondent		
refers to Table 2 Annex A of PPS6,		
which states that "primary frontages		
are likely to include a high proportion		
of retail uses and that the primary		
shopping area is the defined area		
where retail development is		
concentrated." The respondent		
objects to the proposed extension of		
the primary shopping area.		
ASPDR-08 - Natural England	The SPD suggests that a public realm document	No change
Draft SPD	be created for the whole town centre. Within this,	
We suggest linkages be made to	proposals should align with the Greater	
local Biodiversity Action Plans, which	Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan and ensure	
acknowledge the potential of	proposals contribute to the Borough's green	
relatively urban environments to	infrastructure.	
contribute to biodiversity.		
Green Infrastructure	The Council will be producing a Green	No change
We suggest it would be useful for the	Infrastructure Framework as part of the evidence	
SPD to consider the proposed green	base for the LDF.	
spaces as they relate to wider green		
infrastructure.	'Southside' details the creation of a town centre	
	park which will contribute to Tameside's green	
	infrastructure.	
Sustainability Appraisal	This was endorsed by Natural England at the	No change
1. We think the omission of	time it was produced.	ŭ
biodiversity considerations at the	'	
scoping stage of the appraisal would	2. The Council recognises that greater emphasis	
not be endorsed now.	has now been placed on sustainable	
	developments. However, it is felt that	
2. Would also question omission of	requirements through the planning application	
sustainability criteria, such as air	process will ensure that all developments align	
quality and water conservation	and response to this changing agenda.	
issues, which have assumed greater		
importance with the increased		
recognition of the effects of climate		
change.		
Habitats Regulations Assessment	Appendix 3 of the Habitats Regulation	No change
The screening report would benefit	Assessment contains a plan showing the	
The color migroport media bottom	, isototiment contained plan eneming the	

from a map showing the proposed development sites in relation to the European designated sites.	European designated site & the whole of Tameside, including Ashton.	
ASPDR-09 - Lancashire County Council	No comment	No change
The overall aim of regenerating & strengthening Ashton Town Centre is supported.		
'Potential development sites' could accommodate considerable amounts of floorspace. The need for this potential scale of development and the impact of it should be given due consideration in the planning process. It is not clear whether these sites are needed to satisfy an identified quantitative need. In addition, the impact of proposals may need to be tested through the planning application process.	The Council's rationale for including 'potential development sites' within the SPD is to highlight to potential developers the sites it views as having development opportunity & potential for aiding the regeneration of the town centre, not to meet an identified quantitative need. This does not mean other sites will not be considered, or that the highlighted sites must be developed. It merely highlights that the Council is open to appropriate development across the town centre.	No change
ASPDR-10 - Government Office North West 1. As set out in PPS12 (para. 6.1) SPDs may provide further detail on policies out in development plans, but they should not themselves contain new policy material which should be examined through the DPD preparation process. SPDs cannot therefore allocate sites and it appears that the document may be straying over that line by identifying sites for development in various parts of the town centre	See comment above.	No change
2. We note that the document indicates that retail development	The Council accepts this comment and will amend the SPD accordingly.	The following revisions to the SPD will be made:

may be acceptable in various parts of the town centre. The document should make it clear that any proposals for retail development will need to satisfy the sequential test set out in PPS6 (para 2.44 and table 2, annex A). For retail development it is the primary shopping area which constitutes the town centre in this context, rather than the whole of the wider town centre. Sites which are not within the primary shopping area are therefore considered to be edge-of-centre or out-of-centre so far as retail development is concerned

Plan at page 6 will highlight Ashton's primary shopping area, as illustrated in the Tameside UDP.

Town Centre Uses – page 11 2.2 Retail

2.6 Any proposals for retail development will need to satisfy the sequential test as set out in PPS6 (para. 2.44 & table 2 annex A). For retail developments it is the primary shopping area which constitutes the town centre, rather than the whole of the wider town centre. Sites which are not within the primary shopping area are therefore considered to be edge-of-centre or out-of-centre.

<u>ASPDR-11</u> - Greater Manchester Public Transport Executive

Page 8 – Bullet 5 states 'Metrolink to Ashton requires funding. This is by far the most pressing infrastructure priority'. This requires updating, as GMPTE is currently in, what it believe to be, the final stages of contract negotiations & will be seeking full approval from the Department of Transport.

Bullet 5 of page 8 refers to the Greater Manchester Town Centres Study; as such the Council cannot alter its content. However, the Council recognises that the current position of Metrolink needs to be highlighted within the SPD. No change to bullet 5, page 8. But the following revisions will be made to Transport Section page 12:

2.24 2.23 The town centre benefits from a number of transport assets. Centrally located, the rail station provides Ashton with a cross Pennine service to Manchester and Huddersfield, but its gateway and pedestrian link to the town centre is poor and must be improved. In addition to the rail service, it is proposed Ashton will receive the metro line during the second phase of extension.

2.24 Allied with its existing public transport provision, Ashton is due to receive Metrolink. The Metrolink Ashton-under-Lyne extension is one of the Department of Transports Accelerated Funding Package schemes within the list of prioritised schemes to be funded by the Greater Manchester Transport Fund. Under the provisional programme trams would be in service to Ashton Town Centre by mid to late 2013.

2.22 2.25 The town's bus station is centrally located next to the Arcades shopping centre with routes serving the Borough and wider region. There are proposals to create a new transport interchange combining the bus station and new metro station, linked to the proposed Arcades extension. Outline planning permission has been granted for the Arcades shopping centre to develop the existing bus station site and create a new transport interchange housing a new bus station and the town's Metrolink station fronting Wellington Road.

Page 12 – As stated above, the section on Transport requires updating to reflect the metrolink extension proposals.	The Council acknowledges that references to the Metrolink require updating across the document.	See above amendments
Page 28 – Section 6 'Delamere' makes no reference to the transport interchange or the outline planning approval for it. Would be useful to cross reference with Section 7 'Markets' as the development lies in both quarters.	The Council acknowledges that references to the Metrolink require updating across the document.	The following amendments will be made: Delamere Key Assets - Proximity to retail core & St Petersfield - Well defined urban grain - Supply of potential development sites - Cultural assets – Art Gallery & Library - Proposed Metrolink & transport interchange 6.19 Potential Development Sites The site of the transport interchange / Metrolink station will be highlighted as a potential development site. The Markets Key Assets - Arcades & Ladysmith Shopping Centres - Markets & Market Square - Historic buildings - Proximity to bus & train stations - Proposed Metrolink & transport interchange
ASPDR-12 - Theatres Trust We support the aim to 'promote as a centre for employment, culture, retail & town centre living' and the aim to 'aid the regeneration of Old Town'. Note that the Tameside Hippodrome has not been included within the Old Town boundary despite it having been listed.	The Council sees no benefits to the Hippodrome being placed in Old Town rather than Delamere. The building is now listed, as such protected against inappropriate development. While areas have been divided into 'quarters' the Council does not see these as isolated areas.	No change

APSDR-13 - Ashton District Assembly

Objection relates to Architectural Styles / Design sections throughout document 'The Council will not dictate architectural styles or design to be applied.'

Respondents feel this phrase "gives developers carte blanche to propose buildings which do not fit in with the character of Ashton. The general opinion is that there should be very clear development briefs regarding materials and character of build for each of the areas.

One of the key drivers behind this document is to promote and encourage the development of high quality buildings across Ashton Town Centre and not give developers a carte blanche to development as they wish.

Architectural Styles / Design sections aim to relate to the styles of architecture applied to a building such as, modernist, art deco, arts & crafts, Victorian, Georgian, classical, baroque, neoclassical, etc. To stipulate the exact architectural style that should be applied to a site or area would be seen as restricting to development in terms of hindering innovation and modern building technologies.

However, not dictating architectural styles does not mean the Council will not scrutinise the design of any development proposal for the town centre. Sections such as scale & mass, urban grain, frontage and gateways & views aim to help this scrutiny.

The Council acknowledges that clearer emphasis should be placed on ensuring new developments acknowledge the distinct character present across parts of the town centre.

In order to prevent confusion the section 'Architectural Styles / Design' within all 'quarters' will become:

Architectural Styles / Design

In order to increase the emphasis on acknowledging local character the following will be added:

Old Town

Architectural Styles

4.9 The Council will not dictate architectural styles to be applied in Old Town the Town Centre. However all new developments must apply a high quality design that acknowledges the character of this historic area. This alignment should be evident through elements such as the primary materials, alignment & size of windows, detailing and the vertical or horizontal emphasis of the building's fenestration.

However in Old Town development must 4.10 Developments in Old Town must also align with Conservation Area policy outlined in UDP policies C2, C3, C4, C5 (for Listed Buildings) and C6 (setting of Listed Buildings). and acknowledge the historic surroundings in which development is taking place.

Portland Basin

Architectural Styles

5.9 The Council will not dictate specific architectural styles that should be applied to Portland Basin. The only conditions are that development must be of a high quality innovative design that respects the historic structures and conservation area policies of the area. Development proposals lying adjacent to historic buildings and structures should acknowledge this respect / alignment through elements such as the primary materials, scale & mass of development, alignment & size of windows, detailing and the vertical or horizontal emphasis of the building's fenestration.

Delamere

Architectural Styles

6.10 6.11 The Council will not dictate specific architectural styles to be applied across Delamere. But all development proposed must be of a high quality design. The quarter as a whole has limited buildings of architectural quality for new development to take reference from. As

such the Council suggests those of quality, such as the New Charter offices, are acknowledged where relevant, and as new developments are created these are used as a precedent where appropriate. Exceptions to this apply where development sites lies adjacent to neighbouring quarters or historic buildings such as the Listed Library or T.A. centre. On such sites development must respect their surroundings through elements such as materials, scale & mass, the vertical or horizontal emphasis of the building's fenestration and its detailing.

6.11 Exceptions apply where a development lies adjacent to an historic building such as the Listed Library or TA building, where development must respect the historic character.

The Markets

Architectural Styles

7.8 The Council will not dictate architectural styles to be applied in The Markets. However any future development proposals must be of the highest quality, acknowledging and complementing the three listed buildings (Market Hall, Town Hall and Cheshire Building Society) and aligning with Conservation Area policy where appropriate, through their choice of primary materials and detailing, scale & mass and the vertical or horizontal emphasis of the building's fenestration.

St Petersfield

Architectural Styles

8.6 8.8 If any further development in the area takes place it should acknowledge the modern and where appropriate complement the historic with architectural styles and materials that sit appropriately within the modern development created.

Penny Meadow

Architectural Styles

10.7 The Council will not dictate architectural styles that should be applied to Penny Meadow. Development must be of the highest quality, reflecting the quarter's prominent gateway location. Innovative modern design will be welcome particularly at landmark sites. Poor quality design will not be accepted. Sites that lie within or adjacent to the Town Centre Conservation Area must align with Conservation Area policy acknowledging the historic character in their scale, mass, materials and vertical or horizontal emphasis of the fenestration.

Holy Trinity

Architectural Styles

12.8 The Council will not dictate an architectural style to be applied in Holy Trinity. All future developments must represent high quality innovative design and acknowledge the existing housing stock where appropriate. is the only prerequisites that should be adopted by future development proposals. This is of particular importance on sites 12.9 The only exception to this being development adjacent to the cluster of listed buildings, (Holy Trinity Church, Vicarage and Primary School). In such cases development proposals should apply a design that does where development must not affect the setting of these historic buildings.

List of Stakeholder who responded

ASPDR-01 UK Association of Gypsy Women

ASPDR-02 Shire Consulting on behalf of Barclays Bank

ASPDR-03 Collier CRE on behalf of Bollinwater Estates LLP

ASPDR-04 The Coal Authority

ASPDR-05 Ashton-under-Lyne Civic Society

ASPDR-06 Tameside Archaeological Society Limited

ASPDR-07 Nathaniel Lichfield & Partners on behalf of Apollo Ashton LLP

ASPDR-08 Natural England

ASPDR-09 Lancashire County Council

ASPDR-10 Government Office North West

ASPDR-11 Greater Manchester Public Transport Executive

ASPDR-12 Theatres Trust

ASPDR-13 Ashton District Assembly

The Council received 9 responses within the allocated consultation period. 4 responses were received after the four week period had elapsed, but have been considered by the Council.

The comments received are summarised in the previous section and amendments, additions or deletions are also indicated in the summary table.