

Overview & Scrutiny Task Group

Meeting Notes



Review topic	Date of Meeting
Lichfield City Centre Masterplan	08 February 2024

Attendance	Venue
<p>Members: C. Ball (Chair) J. Checkland D. Cross A. Hughes R. Harvey-Coggins P. Ray J. Smith P. Whitehouse</p> <p>Apologies</p> <p>Officers: Will Stevenson John Smith Karen Higgins</p> <p>Witnesses: CLlr A Farrell (Cabinet Member for Housing & Local Plan)</p>	Committee Room

Areas Discussed
<p>Members agreed the following change to the notes of the previous meeting – to add the word “Some” to the start of the sentence: <i>“Members agreed a social mix in the city centre is important.”</i></p> <p>Officers updated members on the current planned timeline for development of the Birmingham Road Site (BRS). Members were disappointed to learn that the political decision not to redevelop District Council House had been taken without first being discussed with the task group. They requested the cabinet member to raise this with Cabinet colleagues.</p> <p>It was confirmed that the Old Ford Site has now gone live for marketing as of 5th February 2024.</p> <p>The task group had a thorough and varied debate on the housing mix to be developed on the BRS. The cabinet member confirmed that the decision on housing mix would ultimately be taken by Cabinet, but the views of the task group would indeed feed into this decision.</p>

Outcomes

- Members had a robust discussion on the housing mix and received updates from the Cabinet member and officers.

Further Work Required/Next Steps:

- Members would return on March 20th for a follow up meeting with Cabinet Member Cllr A. Smith.

Additional Information:

The attached document is an update on the current Birmingham Road Site (BRS) programme timeline detailing the estimated delivery dates we are working towards and progress that has been made to date. Please note this update is for where we are now and moving forward there are plans for further development as follows:

- Once the MSCP has been demolished the temporary outdoor space will be installed and subsequent plans for the long term redevelopment the area will be developed and completed.
- Following the current marketing process of the Old Ford Site, the next steps will be to shortlist and meet preferred bidders, assess bid values and decide which bid to accept so that a design proposal can be submitted for planning.
- Further in the programme when the bus station has been resolved there will be consideration on how this site will be developed with options such as new homes, hotel, open space and F&B.
- As discussed there is no immediate intention to redevelop the District Council House site in the current delivery programme through to 2027, due to the successful refitting and new co-use by small businesses and partner tenants.