

Overview & Scrutiny Task Group

Meeting Notes



Lichfield
District Council

Review topic	Date of Meeting
Lichfield City Centre Masterplan	20 March 2024

Attendance	Venue
<p>Members: C. Ball (Chair) – Via Teams J. Checkland A. Hughes R. Harvey-Coggins J. Smith P. Whitehouse</p> <p>Apologies D. Cross P. Ray</p> <p>Officers: Will Stevenson John Smith – Via Teams Karen Higgins</p> <p>Witnesses: Cllr A Smith (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Leisure, Parks & Major Projects) – Via Teams Simon Fletcher (Chief Executive) – Via Teams</p>	<p>Seward Room</p>

Areas Discussed
<p>Members approved the notes of the previous meeting on 8th February 2024.</p> <p>The Cabinet member confirmed that any reference to “the site” encompasses the entire BRS area including bus station and temporary car park. He outlined rough revenue estimates for the former Ford garage site dependent on use, housing mix and developer. He confirmed that the design code will be strictly adhered to by any developers and that they are made aware of this before any bids are submitted.</p> <p>The Cabinet member and Chief Executive assured the task group that the intention is to allocate a proportion of the former Ford garage site to affordable housing for key workers and confirmed that there would be 'affordable housing' and possibly social housing on other parts of the overall site. This would likely be included alongside upmarket housing. It was confirmed retirement housing would not form part of this.</p>

It was stated that developers would be interviewed and contracted to ensure they stick to any conditions agreed with the council beforehand including planning applications and development deadlines.

It was confirmed that a lease agreement will be put in place between the council and bus operators for the existing bus station site and alternate provision for the bus station has been under active discussion with Staffordshire County Council. The Chair asked for discussions on the bus station to be discussed at the next task group meeting.

Members requested clearer plans and design details going forward.

Outcomes

- It was confirmed the intention is to allocate a proportion of the former Ford garage site to affordable housing for key workers alongside upmarket housing.
- The task group received assurances that retirement housing would not form part of this.

Further Work Required/Next Steps:

- Members would examine discussions around the bus station at the next meeting.
- Dates for future upcoming meetings would be discussed with officers.
- The Chair would have regular monthly meetings with John Smith to discuss progress.