

**SWINDON BOROUGH COUNCIL
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK**

Examination of the Swindon Central Area Action Plan (CAAP)

<p>AGENDA FOR HEARING SESSION 5 9.30 am Tuesday 8 July 2008 The Pilgrim Centre, Regent Circus, Swindon</p>

1. Inspector
Welcome; opening remarks
2. Swindon Borough Council
Introductions and opening remarks
3. Overview of general matters relating to the plan (details pages 2 - 3)

Procedural and conformity tests

Statement of Community Involvement
Sustainability Appraisal
Community Strategy
National Policy
Regional Policy/Strategy
Neighbouring Planning Authorities

Coherence, consistence and effectiveness tests

Structure and presentation of the Plan, Proposals Map and Annexes
Suggested amendments
Consideration of alternatives
Evidence base
Implementation mechanisms
Monitoring mechanisms
Flexibility

4. Feedback session
5. Inspector
Closing remarks

Representors:

Martha Parry
New Mechanics Institute Preservation Trust Limited
Old Town Group

PROCEDURAL AND CONFORMITY TESTS

Has the plan been prepared in accordance with the SCI

- Was publicity and consultation carried out in accordance with the adopted SCI
- Explaining/understanding the process to community groups

Has the plan and its policies been subjected to Sustainability Appraisal (SA)?

- Was the SA carried out in accordance with requirements of S39 (2) of the 2004 Act?
- Scoping Report
- SA and the Issues and Options, Preferred Options and Submission Document stages
- Consultation on the SA
- Environmental assessment

Has regard been had to the Community Strategy?

- The Community Strategy 2004-2010
- The Shared Vision for Swindon 2008-2030

Is the plan consistent with national planning policy, including Policy Statements published whilst the CAAP was in preparation and post-submission?

National policy on sustainable communities (PPS1), housing (PPS 3), town centres (PPS 6), biodiversity (PPS 9), sustainable waste management (PPS10), transport (PPG 13), the historic environment (PPG 15), tourism (PPG21), renewable energy (PPS 22), flood risk (PPS 25)

- PPS: Planning and Climate Change Supplement to PPS 1 (December 2007)

Is the plan consistent with the adopted/emerging Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS), including the Panel's recommendations following the RSS Examination in Public which post-date the CAAP submission Paper

South West Regional Assembly (SWRA) considers the CAAP to be in general conformity with RPG 10 and the draft RSS

EIP Panel's recommendations:

- "Strategically Significant Cities and Towns"
- Recommended Policy SR2.2
- Regional Flood Risk Assessment
- Affordable housing
- Timetable for taking forward the emerging RSS

What regard has been had to the relevant plans, policies and strategies of neighbouring planning authorities when considering Swindon's role in the regional/sub-regional context? Do any cross-boundary issues arise from competition with other regional centres and aspirations for Central Swindon to be "a destination of choice"? If so, how does the plan address these issues?

- Relationship with other regional centres
- Self-assessment (Technical Appendices page 11): no cross boundary issues
- Implications for the wider Swindon urban area and beyond in terms of pedestrian and cycle links and other travel modes

COHERENCE, CONSISTENCE AND EFFECTIVENESS TESTS

Structure and presentation of the Plan, Proposals Map and Annexes, including consistency in site identification and boundaries on maps, paragraph/section numbering and cross referencing, information required to comply with statutory requirements/regulations

Documents/content

- What constitutes “the Plan”
- Adopted Local Plan policies and allocations which will be superseded by the CAAP
- Glossary/abbreviations
- Rationale for the CAAP boundary

Presentation

Maps (Proposals Map and maps/plans within the document)

Typos/proof reading errors

Changes suggested in the Appendices to the Council’s statement

Has sufficient consideration been given to alternatives?

- New Mechanics Institute Trust’s proposals
- The route of the canal
- The location of the university

What is the evidence base for proposals that have already reached an advance stage?

- The Promenade
- Regent Place
- Union Square/Commercial Quarter
- Swindon Central
- North Star

Are the mechanisms for implementation clear? How will funding through developer contributions work in practice; what are the priorities and how will each priority contribute to the objectives? The plan identifies additional work to be undertaken before a number of policies/proposals can progress. Does the Council have the capacity to undertake/secure such work within the time frame necessary to ensure that development will be delivered in the period identified?

- The Council’s role
- Developer contributions: standard charge approach
- Contributions to highways and transport infrastructure and services
- Appendix 3: Key future tasks and responsibilities
- The role of Community groups in future tasks

Are the mechanisms for monitoring clear? Do all policies/proposals have identifiable targets/milestones/triggers, as appropriate?

- AMR Indicators
- Other indicators in relation to sustainability

Is the plan reasonably flexible to deal with changing circumstances?

- Master Plans, public realm streams and community plans
- Review of policies dependent on a number of different funding streams