



EXECUTIVE

YOU ARE REQUESTED TO ATTEND A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE TO BE HELD IN PRINCIPAL COMMITTEE ROOM, THE DEANE HOUSE ON WEDNESDAY 11TH DECEMBER 2002 AT 18:00.

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes
3. Public Question Time
4. Call Forward Items
5. Local Air Quality Management Areas
Report of Public Health Unit Manager (enclosed)
6. Implementing Affordable Housing in Taunton Deane
Joint Report of Forward Plan and Regeneration Manager and Housing Manager - Private Sector and Development (enclosed)
7. Implementing the Vision for Taunton
Report of Forward Plan and Regeneration Manager (enclosed)
8. Temporary Repair Works to High Street, Taunton
Report of Director of Development (enclosed)

The following item is likely to be considered after the exclusion of the press and public because of the likelihood that exempt information would otherwise be disclosed relating to the Clause set out below of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

9. Temporary Repair Works to High Street, Taunton - Appendix

G P DYKE
Member Services Manager

The Deane House
Belvedere Road
TAUNTON
Somerset

TA1 1HE

03 December 2002

Executive Members:-

Councillor Bulgin (Planning and Transportation)
Councillor Croad (Economic Development, Property and Tourism)
Councillor Henley - Deputy Leader (Leisure, Arts and Culture)
Councillor Horsley - Leader of the Council
Councillor Lees (Communications)
Councillor Lisgo (Community Leadership)
Councillor Mullins (Environmental Policy and Services)
Councillor Partington (Corporate Resources)
Councillor Stone (Housing Services)

FORWARD PLAN

The following items are likely to be considered by the Executive within the next four months:-

Budget 2003/04 (12 February 2003)

Treasury Management Strategy (12 March 2003)

Creech Paper Mills (15 January 2003)

TAUNTON DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE 11 DECEMBER 2002

REPORT OF PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT MANAGER

(This matter is the responsibility of Executive Councillor Mullins)

LOCAL AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREAS

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To advise members of the progress with the Air Quality Review and Assessment process
- 1.2 To approve the designation of Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs).

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Local Air Quality Management is a system that requires all local authorities to identify and take action to tackle any local air quality problems arising from seven key pollutants. These key pollutants are mainly derived from road traffic, which is an ever-increasing problem in urban areas.
- 2.2 The UK National Air Quality Strategy sets out the Government's plans for improving air quality. These plans are based on reducing concentrations of the seven key pollutants to achieve health based targets or "objectives" which have been specified in legislation.
- 2.3 Since 1998 all local authorities have been carrying out review and assessments within their areas (a technical process) to determine whether the statutory air quality objectives are likely to be met. This process had to be conducted in phases, with only those authorities that did not expect to meet the objectives proceeding to a third stage.
- 2.4 The Council completed its first round of review and assessments in September 2000 and concluded that it was not necessary to designate an Air Quality Management Area.

3.0 Current Situation

- 3.1 Additional monitoring of nitrogen dioxide carried out in 2001 identified significant bias associated with all diffusion tube analysis carried out by the appointed laboratory, Gradko Laboratories.

- 3.2 The Council acted on these findings immediately and, once official confirmation was sought from DEFRA, it was decided to produce a Supplementary Stage 3 Report, which was published in September 2002.
- 3.3 The Report highlights two areas; East Reach and the A358 in Henlade, as areas where it is predicted that the annual mean national air quality objective for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) is unlikely to be achieved. Two other areas, Wellington High Street and residential areas close to Victoria Parkway and Toneway, have been identified as being close to exceeding the annual mean objective. These are very discrete areas where residential dwellings are in close proximity to busy roads.
- 3.5 The Supplementary Stage 3 Report recommends that:
- two discrete Air Quality Management Areas are declared in respect of the likely exceedence of the NO₂ annual mean objective. One to cover properties at the top end of East Reach, at the junction of East Street and Hurdle Way and the other to include those properties on the A358 at the Henlade crossroads.
 - the extensive diffusion monitoring survey already under way should continue for a twelve month period to provide more information on the extent of the area of exceedence.
 - a consultant is appointed to undertake a sophisticated air quality modelling exercise to plot the predicted variation in NO₂ concentrations across the urban areas of the Borough. The continuous monitoring carried out by the Council will be used to verify the modelling.
- 3.6 The justification for declaring these two discrete areas is that they are the minimum areas where monitoring has provided evidence that it is unlikely that the annual mean NAQO for NO₂ will be achieved.

4.0 Implications

- 4.1 The Council is legally required to designate AQMAs to include those areas where it is likely that any NAQO will be exceeded.
- 4.2 The designation of the AQMAs should take place within four months of completing the Supplementary Stage 3 Report (i.e. by 31 March 2003). Comments received in response to the public consultation of the Supplementary Stage 3 Report, which ended on 27 November 2002, are contained in Appendix 1 of this Report.
- 4.3 The AQMA designation shall be made by the Order contained in Appendix 2.
- 4.4 It will also necessary for the Council to carry out a further review and assessment (Stage 4), which will focus on the areas where it has been identified that there is a potential to exceed the NO₂ annual mean objective. The Stage 4 must be completed no later than the end of November 2003 (i.e.

twelve months after completing the Supplementary Stage 3 Report). The Stage 4 will include the additional work that the Supplementary Stage 3 Report recommends i.e. additional monitoring and the modelling referred to above. This work will provide information to help define more precisely the area of exceedence. The AQMAs designated at this time may or may not have to be amended as a result of this additional work.

- 4.5 Once the AQMA declaration has been made, it will also be necessary to draw up a Action Plan setting out how it is proposed to meet the objectives within the AQMAs. This is a wide-ranging corporate and cross-departmental process, which requires consultation with other stakeholders, such as neighbouring local authorities, businesses, local people, the Highways Agency and highways authorities. As this is a transport problem, the Action Plan will be concerned with traffic management powers and will, therefore, be intrinsically linked to the Local Transport Plan
- 4.6 Action plans that are formed after AQMA designation should be revised on a regular basis and AQMAs should also be regularly amended, revised or even revoked as more up-to-date information on the levels of pollutants is obtained.

5.0 Recommendation

- 5.1 It is RECOMMENDED that the Chief Solicitor be authorised to sign the East Reach and Henlade AQMA Order.

Contact officer: Gillian Kneller



Our ref: HA 007/036/000001
Your ref: AJP/E74/DEW

2/04-K
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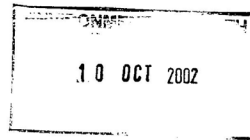
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Environmental Health
Taunton Dean Borough Council
The Deane House
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TA1 1HE

9 October 2002

For The Attention Of Gillian Kneller



Dear Madam

**THE ENVIRONMENT ACT 1995
SUPPLEMENTARY THIRD STAGE AIR QUALITY REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT**

Thank you for your recent consultation regarding the above matter.

The Highways Agency has no comments to make on these proposals.

If you have any other queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

James Downer
Operations Directorate
E-mail: james.downer@highways.gsi.gov.uk



9 October, 2002

Mr Parker

Parker, Ashley

From: tony hayman [tonyhayman1@tiscali.co.uk]
Sent: 07 October 2002 17:47
To: Parker, Ashley
Subject: Supplementary Third Stage Air Quality Review and

Mr A Parker
Pollution Control Officer
Taunton Deane Borough Council
The Deane House
Belvedere Road
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Somerset
TA1 1HE

Mr A A Hayman
12 Eastbourne Gate
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 1SZ

Dear Mr Parker

Thank you for sending me the document regarding the Supplementary Third Stage Air Quality Review and Assessment.

I am unable to attend your exhibitions on the dates available and wish to pass my comments by way of this e-mail.

- Please can you extend your AQMA in East Reach beyond the junction of Haydon road? I ask this question because I feel that this is one of the most polluted roads in Taunton due to the amount of time vehicles spend queuing along this *short cut* with their engines running.
- Are the traffic lights along the East Reach route timed for the morning and afternoon? As more traffic is travelling up East Reach in the morning and down it in the evening if the lights are using the same timings through the day jams will occur adding to the pollution.
- When travelling in Bristol and Oxford I have found signs asking motorists to switch off their engines when stopped in queues, could such signs be used in some areas of Taunton? e.g. Priory Bridge Road, East Reach, Haydon Road, Duke Street, Priory Way.
- A lot of time and energy is being spent on promoting the crescent scheme, this will cause more gridlock for motorists trying to drive to the crescent to park. The council has never promoted the East Gate car park as a good place to park, if a two or three story secure car park was built on the site this would stop a lot of motorists driving into the town centre. A bus stop is a two-minuet walk from the car park with regular buses to and from the parade. If the council is not interested in using this car park as part of the Taunton Plan I feel it should be handed to a private car park company to develop and improve Taunton's use of transport.
- Other towns and cities have signs on the edge of them showing which car parks are open and how many spaces they have remaining, this allows drivers to plan where they are going to park as they have the information to make the decision, currently no such signs exist in Taunton, this means that drivers drive around and around the car parks of this town looking for spaces that are not there. If the council can't look at this low-tech technology then maybe they can

17/10/02

look at signs at each car park that say, "Full? Please try the nearest car park at xyz" with an arrow showing them which way to go.

Cont:2

Thank you for taking the time to look at my e-mail, you can contact me at the above address if you wish.

Yours sincerely

Antony Hayman

17/10/02

TAUNTON DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Internal Memorandum

To: Gillian Kneller, Public Health Manager

From: Phil Anelay, Planner, Forward Planning

Date: 25/11/02

Re Supplementary Stage 3 Review and Assessment of Air Quality

Thank you for consulting the Forward Planning and Regeneration Unit, headed by Ralph Willoughby-Foster, on the above document.

The document is comprehensive and the proposed AQMAs are supported in principle. It is noted that the boundaries of the proposed AQMAs in East Reach, Taunton and on the A358 in Henlade are tightly drawn, so that they are small discrete areas which include or are very close, to the monitoring sites. However, looking at maps, there are other locations on these busy roads where houses appear to be very close to the road and where it is logical to expect similar levels of pollution to exist, (although I am commenting here only as a planner, without specialist knowledge of this subject). Also people may live in flats over shops in East Reach, which could similarly be affected. Perhaps the possibility of monitoring these other locations might be considered, and, depending on the results, the AQMAs extended and/or further small AQMAs designated, as appropriate. However, I realise that this would require further resources which may not be available.

Phil Anelay

TAUNTON DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL

DESIGNATION OF
AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREAS

ORDER NO. 1 OF 2002

ENVIRONMENT ACT 1995 PART IV Section 83(1)

Taunton Deane Borough Council of The Deane House, Belvedere Road, Taunton being of the opinion that by reason of the concentration of pollutants present in the air, the areas described in Paragraph 2 of this Order should be designated as Air Quality Management Areas, and in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by Section 83(1) of the Environment Act 1995 hereby makes the following order:-

1. The Order may be cited as the East Reach/ Henlade AQMA Order No. 1 2002 and shall come into effect on *

2. The land and premises which
 - (i) are delineated hatched red and shown on the map forming part of this Order sealed with the Common Seal of the Taunton Deane Borough Council and marker "Map forming part of the East Reach/ Henlade AQMA Order No. 1 2002, and

 - (ii) are briefly described in the Schedule to this Order together with the pollutants identified as exceeding objections recommended in the Air Quality Regulations 2000.

are designated as an Air Quality Management Area for the purposes of Part IV of the Environment Act 1995.

3. This Order shall remain in force until it is varied or revoked by a subsequent order.



Plan No

Scale: 1:1,250

Date: 29/10/2002

LA079677

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**TAUNTON DEANE
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Map forming part of the East Reach/ Henlade AQMA Order No. 1 2002



Plan No

Scale: 1:1,250
Date: 29/10/2002

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AUNTON DEANE
BOROUGH COUNCIL

TAUNTON DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE – 11 DECEMBER 2002

Joint Report of the Forward Plan & Regeneration Manager and the Housing Manager – Private Sector and Development

This matter is the joint responsibility of Executive Councillors Phil Stone and Roy Bulgin.

Potentially the report could affect all Council Wards.

IMPLEMENTING AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN TAUNTON DEANE

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The attached report has been considered and approved by both the Housing and Strategic Planning, Transportation and Economic Development Review Panels.
- 1.2 It is being brought to the Executive for it to approve the second recommendation of the report.
- 1.3 As a point of information, it should be noted that in line with the decisions of the Executive at its meeting on 15 May 2002, 'affordable housing' is housing '...that is provided, with subsidy, for people who are unable to resolve their housing requirements in the local housing sector market because of the relationship between housing costs and incomes'. In practice, this will generally be housing provided by a Registered Social Landlord for rent or shared ownership where control of the 'equity discount' is retained in perpetuity.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is **recommended** that the continued negotiation of affordable housing at nil public subsidy be approved.

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TAUNTON DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL

**STRATEGIC PLANNING, TRANSPORTATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
REVIEW PANEL – 19 NOVEMBER 2002
HOUSING REVIEW PANEL – 27 NOVEMBER 2002**

**Joint Report of the Forward Plan & Regeneration Manager and the Housing
Manager – Private Sector and Development**

This matter is the joint responsibility of Executive Councillors Phil Stone and Roy Bulgin.

Potentially the report could affect all Council Wards.

IMPLEMENTING AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN TAUNTON DEANE

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise Members of a change to the rate of public subsidy in the provision of affordable housing, and to seek confirmation of their continued support for the approach to negotiation as set out in the Council's Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG).

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Council has yet to finalise its SPG concerning the provision of affordable housing on general market sites. An important feature of this is the Council's intention to seek the provision of such housing at a price that requires no public subsidy. The proportion of the cost of providing new affordable housing that is met by public subsidy has increased substantially since the Council published its draft SPG for consultation. To ensure that the public funds available for new affordable housing are used most effectively, it is recommended that the Council continues to seek the provision of new affordable housing from the developers of general market housing sites at nil public subsidy.

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The delivery of affordable housing within schemes of general market housing development, secured through the planning system by the use of Section 106 Agreements, is an important element of provision. It is likely to become increasingly so in the future.
- 3.2 To help with the implementation of this means of provision the Council approved draft SPG - 'Implementing Affordable Housing in Taunton Deane' - for the purpose of public consultation in July 2001. The purpose of the SPG is to make landowners, developers and any other parties with an interest, aware

of the Council's requirements and the way in which it proposes to achieve the delivery of affordable housing.

- 3.3 The consultation on the draft SPG took place in August and September 2001, and a number of responses were received. Unfortunately, due to the pressures of the Taunton Deane Local Plan Public Inquiry on the staff resources of the Forward Plan and Regeneration Unit, it has not yet proved possible to report the results of the consultation and any proposed changes back to Members. As the Inquiry is still ongoing it is likely to be a little longer before this can be done, although it will be treated as a matter of priority once the Inquiry has closed. In the meantime it has been decided that, due to a change of circumstances, confirmation of the Council's commitment to the approach outlined in the draft SPG is required now.

4.0 THE NEED FOR ACTION

- 4.1 One of the key aspirations of the SPG is to secure the delivery of affordable housing on 'Section 106' sites with the minimum amount of public subsidy. Such funds are very limited, so this approach will ensure that the funds available are used to deliver the maximum possible number of new affordable dwellings. To achieve this the SPG states that the Borough Council will seek to negotiate the provision of affordable housing at a price that requires no public subsidy (or Social Housing Grant (SHG)).
- 4.2 At the time that the SPG was drafted the rate of SHG stood at an average of about 40% of the indicative cost of providing new affordable dwellings, as defined by the Government's Total Cost Indicator (TCI). Since then, however, the Government has increased the rate of SHG significantly, so that it now stands at an average of around 60% of TCI.
- 4.3 The possibility that the rate of SHG might change was foreseen when the SPG was written. Consequently, it advises readers to contact the Borough Council's housing officers to ascertain up to date details of the current rates of SHG and the TCI. No specific reference is made to a particular rate of SHG other than in one worked example.
- 4.4 In view of the scale of increase in SHG, however, and the importance of clarity and certainty in the Borough Council's position when dealing with developers, landowners and providers of affordable housing, it is considered advisable for the Council to confirm its position in relation to the changed rate of SHG. It should be noted that doing this now will neither alter the draft SPG nor pre-empt any recommendations and decisions which are ultimately reached in response to the consultation on it.

5.0 CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 Securing the provision of affordable housing on general market sites through the use of Section 106 Agreements is becoming an increasingly important source of supply.

- 5.2 If the number of affordable dwellings provided is to be maximised the amount of public subsidy per dwelling will need to be minimised and, on Section 106 sites, preferably eliminated.
- 5.3 The Council is producing SPG to assist the provision of affordable housing, but this is incomplete at present and is unlikely to be so in the near future.
- 5.4 Although the rate of public subsidy (SHG) has increased to 60%, it is important that the Council continues to seek the provision of affordable housing from developers of general market housing sites at nil public subsidy.

6.0 CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 6.1 By maximising the number of new affordable dwellings provided from available resources, implementation of the Recommendation will help to deliver the Corporate Priority of **Encouraging Healthier Lives**.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 It is **recommended** that:
- i. the increase in the rate of SHG to 60% since the draft SPG was approved for consultation be noted: and
 - ii. the Appropriate Executive Councillor approves the continued negotiation of affordable housing at nil public subsidy.

Background Papers

The following document has been used in the production of this report;

Implementing Affordable Housing in Taunton Deane – Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance, July 2001

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Malcolm Western Tel: 01823 356441

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TAUNTON DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE 11 DECEMBER 2002

**REPORT OF THE FORWARD PLAN AND REGENERATION MANAGER
(This matter is the responsibility of Executive Cllrs. Bulgin and Croad)**

IMPLEMENTING THE VISION FOR TAUNTON

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the Borough Council's contribution towards the engagement of consultants to work on an Urban Design Framework for the town centre including masterplanning for two key areas, and an Urban Extension Study.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 Implementing the Vision for Taunton requires the completion in the next year of an Urban Design Framework for Taunton town centre and masterplanning for key sites. Continuing the partnership which Taunton Vision has established provides the opportunity to share the costs of this important work. At the same time it is necessary to prepare an Urban Extension Study for Taunton and it would be ideal to use the same consultants.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Council meeting on 15 October 2002 agreed the report of the Taunton Vision Commission and on the following day was agreed by Somerset County Council. The Vision for Taunton has been equally funded by the South West of England Regional Development Agency (SWERDA), the Borough Council and the County Council.
- 3.2 The Vision for Taunton refers to the preparation of an Urban Design Framework for Taunton town centre and within this the preparation of detailed masterplans for major regeneration sites at Firepool and Tangier. These brownfield sites are allocated for mixed use redevelopment in the local plan. The Vision also refers to the preparation of an Urban Extension Study for Taunton, the purpose of which will be to identify the preferred strategy for the future development of the town as a Principal Urban Area, including the identification of a strategic employment site and any necessary strategic infrastructure, such as a new motorway junction and park and ride site.
- 3.3 The Executive meeting on 23 October 2002 agreed an interim policy for Taunton town centre redevelopment sites and delivering an urban renaissance.

4. CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 It has been agreed that the SWRDA, Borough and County Councils jointly fund the engagement of consultants to work on the Urban Design Framework for Taunton town centre and masterplanning of two key areas. The Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) have also

offered their support and assistance. It is important that the work is complete by the end of 2003. A draft brief for the Urban Design Framework has been prepared for consideration and agreement with our partners. Plans of the areas are attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

4.2 The first stage is the preparation of an Urban Design Framework. This will provide a context for the further enhancement, linkages and development of the town centre, comprising supplementary planning guidance. Within this framework the second stage will be the preparation of detailed masterplans for the regeneration of two areas:

- Firepool, including north of the railway, Somerset County Cricket Club and Coal Orchard including the Brewhouse
- Tangier, bus station, Castle Green and Goodlands Gardens

The masterplans will provide the basis for the delivery of a detailed, market tested solution for implementing the urban renaissance elements of the Vision for Taunton.

4.3 The cost of engaging consultants to undertake the Urban Design Framework is unknown, but is anticipated to be in excess of £200k. The costs of the Vision for Taunton have been shared between the SWRDA, Borough and County Councils and it is suggested that a similar partnership will continue for this next stage of work. To enable consultants to be appointed early in 2003 it would therefore be appropriate to recommend the Council to make a supplementary estimate to the budget for 2002/3 for a contribution of £50k towards the cost of consultants.

4.4 The County Council is preparing a draft brief for the Urban Extension Study for Taunton, as required by the Regional Planning Guidance (RPG10). The purpose of this will be to identify the preferred strategy for the further development of the town as a Principal Urban Area. It will identify a comprehensive community extension in a public transport corridor, including a strategic employment site and any necessary strategic infrastructure, such as a new motorway junction and park and ride site. The cost of this work is not known at this stage, but the Borough Council will be expected to make a contribution and it would be appropriate to make provision for a sum of £50k in the budget for 2003/4. There are interrelationships between the Urban Design Framework and the Urban Extension Study in terms of transport, economic development and land use issues. There would therefore be benefits from engaging the same consultants for both studies.

5. **CONCLUSIONS**

5.1 To progress the Vision for Taunton it is necessary to engage consultants to work on an Urban Design Framework for Taunton. The draft brief will need to be agreed with our partners and the Borough Council will need to contribute £50k in this financial year to the cost of consultants. There is an opportunity to continue our partnership with the SWERDA and County Council to share the costs of this important, urgent work to enable Taunton to attract investment and fulfil its role as a Principal Urban Area within the centre of the region.

5.2 The Vision for Taunton also refers to an Urban Extension Study to identify the future strategy for Taunton's development and the necessary infrastructure investments. A brief for the engagement of consultants will need to be agreed with our partners and the Borough Council will need to contribute £50k in the next financial year towards this.

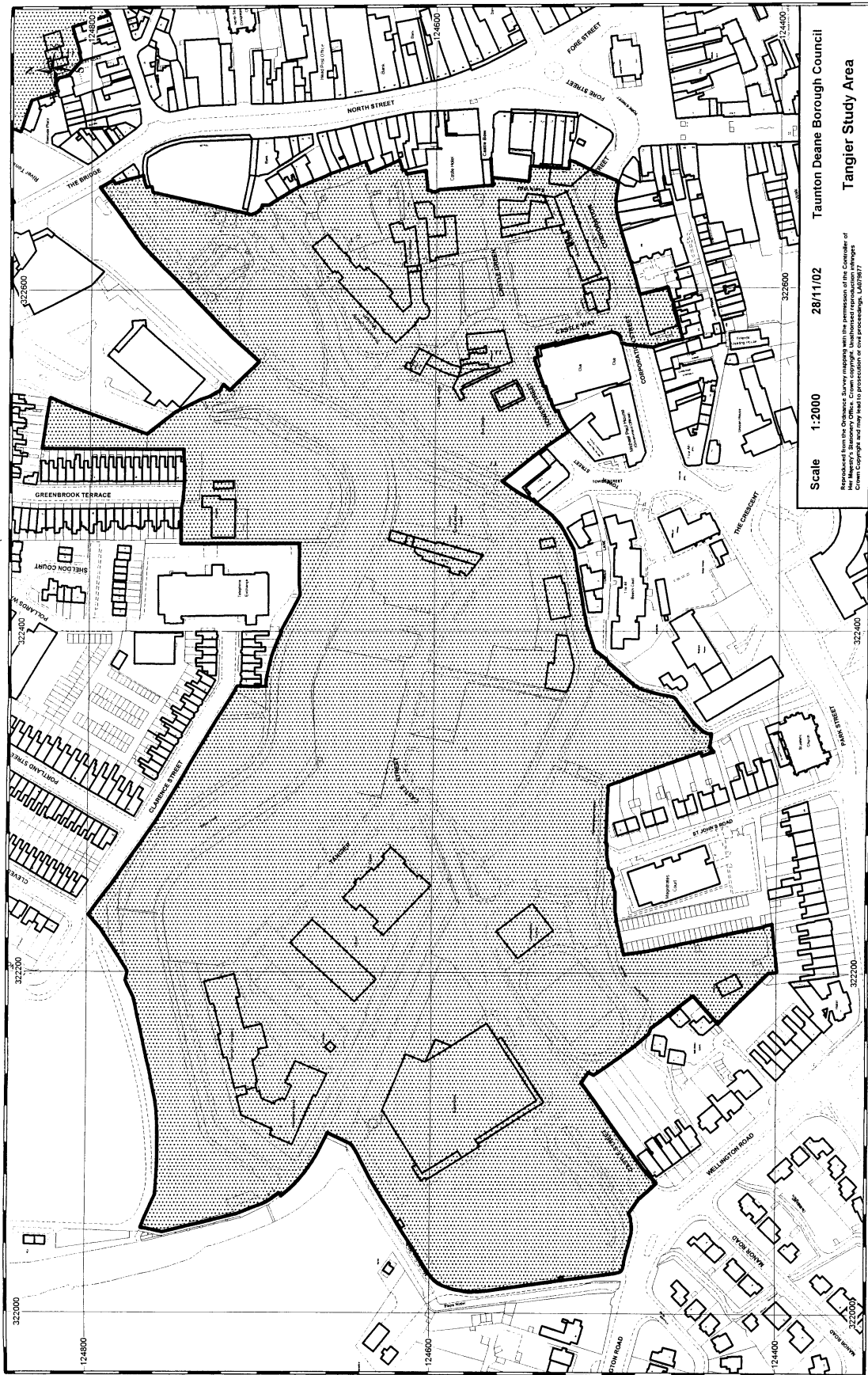
6. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

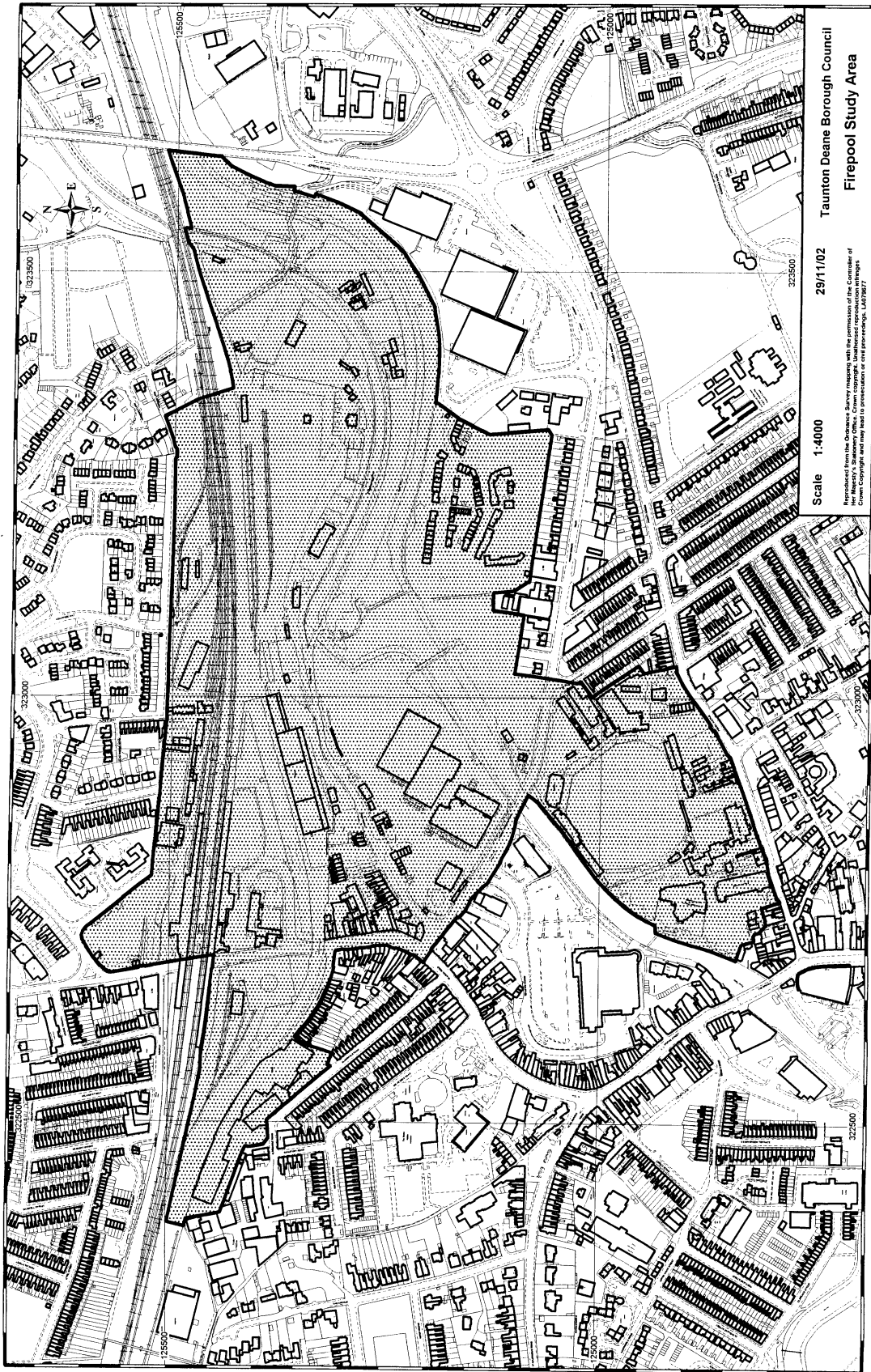
6.1 It is recommended that:

- 1) the Leader and responsible Executive Councillors be delegated to agree the final wording of the briefs for the engagement of consultants
- 2) the Council be recommended to agree a supplementary estimate for £50k in the current financial year towards the cost of engaging consultants for the Taunton town centre Urban Design Framework and masterplanning of major sites
- 3) provision be made in the 2003/4 budget for £50k contribution towards the cost of engaging consultants for the Taunton Urban Extension Study
- 4) the projects be steered by the Reference Group of members agreed by the Taunton Deane LSP.

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TAUNTON DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEETING – WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER 2002

Report of the Director of Development

This matter is the responsibility of the Leader of the Council and Executive Councillors for Livelihood and Jobs (Councillor Croad) and for Transport and Planning (Councillor Bulgin).

TEMPORARY REPAIR WORKS TO HIGH STREET, TAUNTON

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 At the Council Meeting on 15th October 2002, Members agreed that work should commence to determine the cost of urgent repairs to the High Street, Taunton. It was noted that interested development companies felt that improvements to High Street are necessary to compliment the development scheme. There is a budget for town centre improvements. There is also a current demand upon this budget for some urgent surfacing repair/tree works to High Street – a matter of concern to the Town Centre Manager and local traders. The Council Meeting on the 15th October 2002 agreed that work should commence to determine the cost of urgent repairs to the High Street. This report incorporates views upon options and costs and seeks your support for one of the options.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The attached report was presented to the Strategic Planning, Transportation and Economic Development Review Panel on 19th November 2002 (Appendix 1).
- 2.2 The Review Panel resolved to recommend support for Option 1 to include trees A, B and C indicated on plan to be removed and replaced with staked standards, species – Rowan and Whitebeam preferred.
- 2.3 The options for repair works to the High Street were considered by the Taunton Town Centre Partnership Meeting (on Thursday 28th November 2002).
- 2.4 The Partnership also supported Option 1 and considered that the colour of any new block pavings should harmonise with the existing and any replacement trees should be a species suitable for a Town Centre location.

2.5 It is intended that the report upon options will be presented to the Taunton Chamber of Commerce at their next meeting on Tuesday, 10th December 2002.

2.6 Their views on the report will be given verbally at the Meeting.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

3.1 Subject to consideration of the views outstanding:- that Option 1 be adopted and detailed quotations obtained for the various items of work.

**Contact Officers: Rob Wood Tel: 01823 356510
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 Ian Clark Tel: 01823 356491
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