

Appendix 5: Public Notice

Houghton Regis Town Centre Masterplan Consultation Draft Supplementary Planning Document - Preferred Options and Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report

PLANNING AND COMPULSORY PURCHASE ACT 2004
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (LOCAL DEVELOPMENT) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS
2004
REGULATION 26 – PRE-SUBMISSION PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Consultation period 8th September – 19th October 2007

The Houghton Regis Town Centre Masterplan Consultation Draft, September 2007 (Supplementary Planning Document - Preferred Options) sets out the planning and development framework to guide the redevelopment of the town centre. Following previous stakeholder consultation, the Consultation Draft Masterplan and Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report are now available for comment.

The Masterplan, when adopted, will form a Supplementary Planning Document within the Local Development Framework. The accompanying Sustainability Appraisal Report highlights the likely significant economic, social and environmental effects of the proposals in the plan.

In addition, the Houghton Regis Town Centre Consultation Draft Masterplan is supported by the following documents;

- Baseline Report, July 2007
- Issues and Options Statement, August 2007
- Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report and Response Form

These can be viewed at www.shapeyourfuture.org.uk and the Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report Response Form can be downloaded from this web site.

Summary Booklets of the Consultation Draft Masterplan, with a detachable Response Form, can also be obtained from the following locations, between Saturday September 8th and Friday October 19th 2007;

- South Bedfordshire District Council Offices, High Street North, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, LU6 1LF; Mon - Thurs 8.45am - 5.15pm and Friday 8.45am to 4.45pm
- Houghton Regis Library, Bedford Square, Houghton Regis, Bedfordshire, LU5 5ES; Mon 1.30pm-5.30pm, Tues 9.30am-5.30pm, Wed 9.30am-5.30pm, Thurs 1.30pm-5.30pm, Fri 9.30am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-4pm, Sun Closed
- Houghton Regis Town Council Offices, Peel Street, Houghton Regis, Bedfordshire, LU5 5ES
- Houghton Regis Medical Centre, Peel Street, Houghton Regis, Bedfordshire LU5 5EZ
- Houghton Regis Memorial Hall, High Street, Houghton Regis, Bedfordshire

We would welcome any comments you wish to make. Please send all representations in respect of either the Consultation Draft Masterplan or Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report via the following means;

- Fill in the Summary Booklet Response Form (Consultation Draft Masterplan only) and send back to us in the FREEPOST envelope provided – no stamp required.
- View www.shapeyourfuture.org.uk, download both the Consultation Draft Masterplan and Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report Response Forms and send back to Andy Lewis, Economic Regeneration South Bedfordshire District Council Offices, High Street North, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, LU6 1LF
- Email your comments to andy.lewis@southbeds.gov.uk
- Write to Andy Lewis, Economic Regeneration South Bedfordshire District Council Offices, High Street North, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, LU6 1LF

All comments should be received by Friday 19 October 2007. Representations should specify which parts of the Consultation Draft Masterplan or Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report they relate to and the reasons for making the representation. Please also let us know if you wish to be notified of the Submission to the Secretary of State and the Adoption of the Supplementary Planning Document.

Article from the Dunstable Gazette published on 27 September 2007

What will Houghton Regis look like in 20 years time?

Public being asked what they think of plans

With the town set for a massive housing boom over the next 15 years, regional planners have drawn up a draft masterplan to revitalise Houghton Regis town centre.

Among the ideas being considered are plans to move the western end of the High Street southwards so that footpaths can be widened, and in the long term the High Street could even be pedestrianised.

New townhouses have been suggested to form an edge to The Green, and a number of new homes could be on the cards in Cumberland St

reet, King Street and Queen Street.

Last year the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) approved a £4 million grant for improving the Bedford Square area.

One of the conditions was that a masterplan has to be produced covering future development of the town centre.

Planners have ruled that Houghton Regis has no recognisable High Street or heart to the town centre, and few safe places to cross the High Street.

A public consultation is currently underway, and people living in the town have until October 19 to make their views known.

Information and comment booklets are available on the www.shapeyourfuture.org website or from South Beds District Council offices, Houghton Regis library, Houghton Regis Town Council offices, Houghton Regis medical centre and the Houghton Regis Memorial Hall.

The full article contains 236 words and appears in n/a newspaper.
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