

Title of Report: Sion Mills Heritage-Led Masterplan – Initial Consultation Stage	Officer Presenting: Regeneration Manager Author: Heritage Development Officer
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1 Purpose of Report/Recommendations

- 1.1 To provide an update to Members on the progress of the Heritage Led Masterplan for Sion Mills and the planned consultation process.

2 Background

- 2.1 Members will be aware that the Council has appointed GM Design Associates to produce a Heritage Led Masterplan for Sion Mills. The consultants have been engaged in a detailed baseline analysis reviewing all existing information about the village in terms of the geographic, strategic, historical, tourism, leisure and physical context. This has also included an assessment of access and movement within the area, an assessment of retail and residential use alongside public sector delivery and community services. Within this baseline research they have also indicated areas for future potential development.
- 2.2 Alongside the baseline analysis the consultants have also been working on development of proposed concept designs up to RIBA Stage 2. These concept designs will also form part of the consultation process.
- 2.3 The consultants have now prepared a series of consultation dates for September 2018 where they will present their work to a wide range of stakeholders and seek input and advice.
- 2.4 The purpose of the consultation exercises will be to engage with a range of key stakeholders and to receive views in relation to a number of matters that might help to shape the content and direction of the final masterplan and associated action plan. Such matters could include; current issues affecting the growth/development of the village; development opportunities and potential actions etc. Following the completion of the consultation exercises, contributions will be further examined as part of the design and development stages of the final masterplan.

3 Key Issues

- 3.1 The consultation process will seek to engage as many stakeholders as possible in terms of seeking the views of elected members, general public and statutory stakeholders. The consultants are proposing to commence initial engagement with DCSDC Officers representing all three Council Departments and a separate session with statutory agencies in late July. Mindful of the summer recess in August, it is proposed to continue the consultation in September with elected members and general public in September as shown below.
- 3.2 These dates are as follows;

Consultation 1: Elected Members

Proposed date: 10.30am Wednesday 19th September

Venue: DCSDC Council Offices, Derry Road

Consultation 2: Local Community – Council Officers will work with the Consultants to provide a list of groups and individuals for this consultation and work with the Council’s Marketing and Communications teams to ensure this is widely publicized and promoted in order to maximize interest and participation among members of the public.

Proposed Date: Wednesday 26th September, 3-5pm and then 6 - 8pm (TBC)

Venue: Sion Mills - Education Room, Sion Stables (TBC)

4 Financial, Equality, Legal, HR, Improvement and other Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications as this consultation process is included within the GM Design Associates commission. Any further details and confirmation of exact times and locations in relation to this consultation process will be circulated to Members in advance.

5 Recommendations

- 5.1 Members are asked to note the contents of this report and that further reports will be presented at future committees for Members consideration as this commission continues.

Background Papers

June 2018