
EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE HELD ON 31 OCTOBER 2011

**EX.127/11 BOTCHERGATE CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISAL AND
MANAGEMENT PLAN (DRAFT)
(Key Decision)**

(In accordance with Paragraph 15(i) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, the Mayor had agreed that call-in procedures should not be applied to this item)

Portfolio Economic Development

Subject Matter

Pursuant to Minute EX.123/11, the Assistant Director (Economic Development) submitted report ED.37/11 setting out a draft Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan for Botchergate. She reminded Members that the report examined the quality and character that existed within the Conservation Area; a review of the present boundary, together with its adjacent areas; and measures that could be taken to preserve and enhance its character. In addition, the appraisal included a recommendation to modify the boundary of the Conservation Area and therefore proposed consultations on the proposals.

The Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel had considered the matter on 20 October 2011 (EEOSP.68/11) and resolved that the proposed boundary be moved to include all of the buildings on the right hand side of Collier Street. A copy of the Minute Excerpt had been circulated.

The Assistant Director (Economic Development) informed Members that, following discussions, it had been determined that Collier Lane was already included within the Conservation Area. In conclusion, she asked the Executive to consider referral of the paper to Council on 8 November 2011 for approval for public consultation.

The Chairman of the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel stated that the Panel had broadly welcomed the report. She drew attention to the recommendation as set out above, adding that a Member had asked that the use of phrases such as "enhance" and "improve" be clarified since people's perception thereof may vary. Botchergate was a main route into the City and often featured in the Press. It was therefore important to be exact in terms of what was meant by enhance and improve within the paper.

The Environment and Housing Portfolio Holder questioned whether the reference to Collier Street should in fact have been Collier Lane.

The Chairman of the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel responded that the recommendation related to the whole of Collier Lane.

The Economic Development Portfolio Holder thanked the Chairman of the Panel for the scrutiny undertaken. She further commended Officers for what was a very interesting and detailed report. The Portfolio Holder further referred to a comment made at the Panel meeting "that there were no buildings of architectural significance" within the area. She emphasised for the record that that was not her view.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Executive had considered the draft Botchergate Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan, appended to Report ED.37/11, and recommended the paper to Council on 8 November 2011 for approval for public consultation.

Reasons for Decision

The Council had a statutory duty to review its Conservation Areas, together with the existing boundaries and publish proposals for their preservation and enhancement. An up-to-date appraisal of the character of Botchergate Conservation Area would provide a stronger framework with which to inform Development Management decisions and with which to direct efforts towards regeneration of the area.