

Appendix 2

This summary sets out the initial findings of a consultation with the general public and key stakeholders on the 'Our City Our River' Masterplan. The plan represents the Council and Environment Agency's commitment to reduce flood risk in Derby, protect the City's heritage and promote sustainable economic development, to help create attractive and vibrant areas along the river where people want to live, work, shop and relax.

The consultation began on 23rd January 2012. This report provides a summary and details responses received **up to and including Tuesday 27 March 2012**.

The consultation was designed and delivered by Counter Context Ltd who were commissioned by The Environment Agency.

Methodology

The consultation incorporated a number of techniques to ensure that local residents, businesses, and key stakeholders had a number of opportunities to have their say about the proposals. These included:

- Briefing packs for MEPs, MPs and Ward Councillors.
- Briefing meetings with Ward Councillors.
- Consultation leaflets distributed to a total of 7,396 residential and business properties located within the vicinity of the seven Opportunity Sites detailed in the Masterplan. A detached FREEPOST response slip was enclosed with the leaflet to allow the public to give their feedback. Further copies of the consultation leaflet were distributed via 42 carefully selected Community Access Points. Community Access Points are local shops, amenities, libraries and other community locations that distribute information and consultation materials on behalf of Derby City Council and the Environment Agency.
- A designated consultation website was produced to provide background information about the Masterplan and an in-depth section about each of the Opportunity Sites. The website also hosted a downloadable copy of the full Masterplan and an online response form allowing users to provide their feedback. The website was hosted at www.ourcityourriver.co.uk and promoted on both the Derby City Council and Environment Agency homepages.
- A DigiBrief™ information film was produced and hosted on the consultation website to provide background information about the Masterplan, detail the proposals for each Opportunity Site, and address how the Our City Our River Masterplan relates to the wider regeneration of Derby.

- A dedicated telephone information line allowed members of the public and stakeholders to discuss any aspects of the Our City Our River Masterplan.
- Letters were sent to a wide range of stakeholders, who were identified through a detailed stakeholder mapping process, introducing the Masterplan with a copy of the consultation leaflet. Throughout the consultation period, representatives from Derby City Council and the Environment Agency made themselves available to meet directly with these stakeholders to discuss the Our City Our River Masterplan.
- Representatives from Derby City Council and the Environment Agency made themselves available to meet directly with residents at either individual meetings or group meetings.

Consultation Response

Up to and including Tuesday 27 March 2012, a total of 189 formal responses have been received. This includes: 76 leaflet response slips; 24 online response forms; 41 emails; 36 information line calls; and 12 letters.

Further to this, representatives from Derby City Council and the Environment Agency have met with 16 stakeholders and attended 1 public meeting in (Darley ward). A further 6 confirmed meetings are scheduled to take place over the coming weeks.

Detail of feedback

For the purposes of this report, public and stakeholder correspondence has been analysed separately.

For public feedback, responses have been categorised into two sections:

- i) location specific, that are responses specific to locations along the Lower Derwent;
- ii) general feedback, that are responses not specific to locations.

The feedback is being carefully considered as the Masterplan is finalised over the next few months.

Public feedback specific to locations

Up to and including Tuesday 27 March 2012, members of the public have made a total of 231 comments about specific locations. Table 1 summarises the responses, highlighting the number of responses relating to specific locations along the Lower Derwent and the most frequently mentioned issues for each location.

Table 1: Summary of public responses that were specific to locations

Location	No. of comments	Most frequently mentioned issues (number of times mentioned)
Lower Derwent (Apply to whole river corridor)	39	Suggested dredging the river (5); more should be done to remove debris (4); would like to see more trees planted (3); need to retain existing cycle route (2); need pedestrian area improvements (2); link to Derby Canal (2) and provision for boats (2); too much development (2); concern over increasing flood risk elsewhere (2); preference for soft landscaping (2).
Darley Abbey Mills	29	More should be done to remove debris (4); concern about effect on pedestrian footbridge (3); would like further information (3); questioned any affect on tree line (2); concern over any obstruction of views (2); support preferred footbridge option (2); oppose option 3 for the footbridge (2).
Duke Street / Strutt's Park	22	Against a 2.7m flood wall (4); area is in need of redevelopment, in particular derelict buildings (3); existing defences need replacing (2).
Little Chester	20	Questioned the type of development proposed for the area (3); not in favour of high density developments (3); Masterplan is not joined up with land use management further north (3).
Ambaston (Downstream)	20	Concern over increase in flood risk arising from flood prevention scheme in Derby (11); would like to see the existing flood bank raised (8).
Etruria Gardens	18	Believe a riverside path at this location is not necessary (5); would prefer the existing flood defence wall to be improved (4); concern over any loss of communal garden space (3); present defence wall is adequate (3).
Aida Bliss to City Road	17	Wants assurances that Aida Bliss building would be protected (6); in favour of the proposals and the need for change (5).
Darley Abbey Playing Fields	14	Need to improve infrastructure such as parking spaces, seating and children's equipment (2).
St Marys Bridge to Holmes Bridge	7	Requires an improved pedestrian and cycle route (3); would like for previous green space to be restored (2).

Darley Abbey	5	Want existing appearance to be retained (1); agree with no proposed walls (1); against a change of character (1); maintain canoe access (1); bund and contours do not match (1).
Derwent Street / North Riverside	4	Questioned if another footbridge necessary (1); would like for a flood proof car park (1); suggested properties on stilts (1); make river navigable (1).
Meadow Lane to Castleward	4	Requires an improved pedestrian and cycle route (2).
St Mary's Bridge	3	Could be developed as a tourist attraction (1); important to safeguard the chapel (1); bridge must be protected and maintained (1).
Derby City Centre	3	Current riverside buildings are unattractive (1); should be replaced with landscaped areas (1); maintain canoe access (1).
Sowter Road Underpass	3	Currently unsafe for pedestrians (1); too much litter (1); suggested sluice run offs (1).
Full Street	2	Visual appearance needs improving (2).
Riverside Gardens	2	Suggested provision of recreational activities (1); link with Derby canal.
Exeter House	2	Discussion over future of Exeter House (2).
Silk Mill	2	Suggested regeneration of Silk Mill Museum (1); defence wall or bund required (1).
Markeaton Brook	2	Needs considering as part of Masterplan (2).
Mill House	1	Concern over increased flooding (1).
Parker's Piece	1	Questioned any effect on springs (1).
Liversage Estate	1	Concern over flood risk (1).
Stuart Street	1	Questioned why a bridge is proposed close to properties (1).
Derby Junction Railway Bridge	1	Pinch point needs resolving (1).
Darley and Nutwood LNR	1	Management Plan already exists at Local Nature Reserve (1).
Wyvern Way (Downstream)	1	Need to ensure protection (1).

Raynesway (Downstream)	1	Concern about any increased flood risk (1).
Alvaston (Downstream)	1	Questioned if any extra flood defences would be provided (1).
Elvaston (Downstream)	1	Old storm water culvert should be replaced (1).
Derby Arm (Downstream)	1	Flood defence work could help progress work on the Derby Arm (1).
Railway Cottages (Near railway station)	1	Concern about any increased flood risk (1).
Non-specific downstream	1	Concern about any increased flood risk (1).
Total		231

Public general feedback

Up to and including Tuesday 27 March 2012, there have been a total of 91 general comments. Table 2 summarises the ten most frequently mentioned issues raised.

Table 2: Summary of general public responses

Issue / Question	Detail	Total
Consultation Requests	Requests for copies of the consultation leaflet or Masterplan.	11
Event	Questioned whether there would be an event or exhibition.	10
Further consultation	Requests for further public consultation.	9
Insurance premiums	Questions and concerns over the level of insurance premiums.	7
Timescale concerns	Concerns over the suggested 20 year implementation period.	6
Funding	Questioned financial costs of the proposals.	4
In favour	Think the proposals are a good idea.	4
Restoration of canal	Would like the Masterplan to link with the plans to restore Derby Canal.	4
Private sector reliance	Concern over too much reliance on private sector investment.	4
Cycle access	Require much improved access for cyclists.	3

Stakeholder feedback

Table 3 summarises stakeholder feedback **up to and including Tuesday 27 March 2012**. Detailed summaries and full stakeholder feedback will be found in the full statement of community consultation once the consultation has ended.

Table 3: Stakeholder responses

Stakeholder	Summary of feedback
Landowners / Developers / Businesses	
Bridge Inn Public House	Any loss of the pubs car park or beer garden would have a detrimental effect on business; a flood defence wall would be detrimental to the area; would welcome improved access.
Derwent Living / Derby Homes	Specific comments relating to properties within Etruria Gardens, Christchurch Court, Duke Street and Exeter House; has a strong preference for retaining all existing housing stock; any lost housing stock needs replacing.
Aida Bliss	Would like any development to take place in the near future; welcome ongoing discussion.
Trent Barton Bus Depot	Suggested relocation could have a detrimental effect on the business, but if this was to be a preferred option then very early discussions need to take place regarding a new site; any new facility must replicate existing maintenance facilities; suggested further access consultation with Derby City Council Highway's department.
Prime Construction Ltd (City Road area)	Confirmed development intentions; suggested full site demolition was not a viable option; land needs to be used for car parking; questioned position of flood wall; questioned demand for a riverside path on both sides of the river.
Phoenix Properties (Stuart Street and Phoenix St, N Riverside)	Concerned about landholdings being turned into public space; objects to lowering flood defences; objects to proposals as believe will adversely impact on redevelopment potential of landholdings; feel that proposals for park are a poor idea; a safe means of escape will be needed from flats that overlook Cathedral Green; believe proposals would preclude all uses in North Riverside other than water compatible ones; believe existing flood defences should be retained.
Exeter Arms Public House	Concerns if there was any intentions to demolish the pub. Confirmed that there is no intention to acquire the land on which the pub is located.

Derby Telegraph (DMGT)	Currently reviewing future options for the site; should they relocate this would free up the site for redevelopment; a Flood Risk Assessment is being prepared; would like all options to remain open for consideration.
Old Mills – Bath Street	Concerned that the site may be needed for flood water storage or conveyance; believes there is potential to provide high-level access from North Street; interested in whether sequential test would apply during any planning process.
Furnace Inn Public House	Potential interest in purchasing the Furnace Inn on Duke Street; will be consulted as part of Duke Street consultation. Later withdrew interest in purchasing the Furnace Inn.
Garibaldi Ltd	Have no immediate plans for redevelopment but are keen to further understand the Our City Our River proposals and will review the Masterplan.
BWB Consulting	Believe standard of protection does not allow for climate change over predicted design life of proposed development; acknowledged potential increase in cost; confusion over detail of PP25 statement in Masterplan; suggested Markeaton Brook poses a significant risk; Masterplan needs more detail regarding phasing of introducing proposed defence line; Masterplan needs to be made clearer with respect to properties at risk of flooding along Stuart Street; suggested development sites delivering conveyance SuDs features.
Chester Green Fish Bar	Confirmed the business is under long-term lease and requested future updates on the Masterplan consultation.
Compendium Living	Concerned that the proposed flood wall between Bass' Recreation Ground and Pride Parkway would make access difficult and have negative acoustic impacts.
Statutory and Key Services	
English Heritage	Questioned the line of defence through Parker's Piece; wanted confirmation of the Council's commitment to retaining Aida Bliss facade and riverside trees; wanted clarification over sensitive conversion and reuse of Magistrates' Court building; welcome early discussion regarding Darley Abbey Mills; concerned over impact on subsurface remains at Darley Abbey Playing Fields; suggested the need for a conservation engineer to assess the impacts of water flow and heights on St Mary's Bridge, the chapel and Silk Mill; welcome further discussion on development opportunities on Derwent Street and Meadow Lane to Castleward; schedule monuments and archaeological remains at Little Chester need to be understood further.
Sport England	Requested further information and discussion on the impact on any playing fields and associated facilities along the Lower Derwent.

Severn Trent Water	Support the vision to reduce flood risk; welcome more detail on whether the proposals reduce flood risk to STW assets; recommend the impact of proposals on sewer systems is assessed; recommend the proposed design and operation of pumping station downstream of Markeaton Brook is considered carefully.
Network Rail	Objective to protect strategic highways should extended to railways; open to solutions that protect the main line north of Derby station from flooding; note that the impact on Chaddesden Sidings; any planning application should include detail on protection of bridge SPC8/1.D7; requested further information on Memorandum of Understanding.
Waterway specific	
Earl of Harrington Angling Club	Concern over potential increased flooding risk at two fishing Lakes (grid ref: 3506 3900).
Canoe England – Midland Canoe Club	Would like consideration of the canoe club as part of the Masterplan; questioned if there was a way to control the flow of water at Darley Abbey Mills to encourage paddlesport; questioned if there could be anchor points to attach slalom points to.
Derby and Sandiacre Canal Society	Dedicated to restoration of canal restoration; support proposals to enhance riverside activity; agree with proposals to hold water in floodplain north of Haslams Lane; further consideration needed regarding flow of water south of Derby; canal restoration could be involved in dispersal of flood water; suggested creating navigable channel.
Community, Access and Others	
Derby Civic Society	Scheme is disproportionate to the risk involved; would act as blight on development.
World Heritage Site	Support option 1 or 3 of proposed footbridge at Darley Abbey Mills, but oppose option 2; need to carefully consider appearance of flood gates; proposed flood wall at St Mary's Bridge looks unsightly; disagree with 2.7m wall at Duke Street; Silk Mill could be restored to original use with flood waters passing underneath.
Little Chester RA	Requested ongoing consultation and a consultation event.
Darley Abbey Regeneration Partnership	Preference for bridge to be alignment to correspond with historical route; no evidence that flood risk is slowing development; keen to maintain existing views; would like additional car parking; requested better maintenance of islands south of site.
Darley Abbey Society	Masterplan team to attend AGM to update on the outcomes of the Masterplan consultation.
Friends of Darley Abbey Open Spaces	Support proposals for improved pedestrian footbridge; support natural approach to defence measures at Darley Abbey Playing Fields; solution at Duke Street must recognize important pedestrian/cycle route; pedestrian route at St Mary's Bridge needs improving.

Derbyshire County Council

Archaeology Require more heritage gains; heritage professionals need to be consulted at key stages; referenced Archaeological Alert Areas where there may be below ground archaeological impacts.

Planning Services Made no specific comments on the Masterplan.

Conservation Encouraged to see the Masterplan notes importance of heritage; visual appearance of flood gates at Darley Abbey and Exeter Bridge is important; support option 1 or 3 of proposed footbridge at Darley Abbey Mills, but oppose option 2; support opportunities for signage; need further discussion on options for listed buildings in Little Chester; views to river need to be maintained from City Road to Parker's Piece; support riverside walk at Etruria Gardens; concerned about visual impact of flood wall next to St Mary's Bridge; requested involvement in design process for Handyside Bridge; believe a 2.7m wall at Duke Street would have negative impacts on the local community; would support reinstatement of leat near to Silk Mill; important to get appropriate solution at Stuart Street; support integrated defences at North Riverside; concerned about any impact on the Brewery Tap; commented on visual appearance of new bridge at station approach.

Parish Councils

Elvaston Parish Council Concerned that any flood prevention scheme could increase flood risk at Ambaston; would like to see existing flood bank raised.

Environment Agency

Planning liaison officer (Derbyshire) Masterplan provides excellent opportunity to highlight flood risk information required from developers; maintenance of existing defences if as important as construction of new defences; needs to be clear guidance for developers on emergency response and operation of active temporary defences, the use of integral defences, and biodiversity and ecology.