

Title of Report:	Park Way Development Brief - Archaeology	Item 13
Report to be considered by:	Executive	
Forward Plan Ref:	N/A	

Corporate Plan Priority:	CP10 – Creating attractive and vibrant town centres
The proposals contained in this report will help to achieve the above Corporate Plan priority by ensuring that the development of Newbury Town Centre takes place in accordance with Newbury 2025.	

<u>Purpose of Report:</u>	To seek approval for a small amendment to the Park Way Development Brief approved by the Executive on 13 th May 2004
<u>Recommended Action:</u>	To approve the proposed amended wording as set out in paragraph 1.3.
Reason for decision to be taken:	To ensure that archaeological interests in relation to this site are protected.
List of other options considered:	To retain the wording as currently set out in the agreed Development Brief.
Key background documentation:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Park Way Development Brief – May 2004

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Implications

- Policy:** This proposal will strengthen the Council's policy in respect of archaeological interests regarding the Park Way site and bring it in line with current practice.
- Property:** The Council owns part of the Park Way redevelopment site.
- Risk Management:** There are no significant risks associated with this report. The Development Brief can be amended without jeopardising the project timetable.

Supporting Information

1. Background

1.1 The Executive considered the Park Way Development Brief at its May meeting (Item 13 refers). The Newbury Town Centre Task Group previously considered the draft.

1.2 Paragraph 4.3.1 of the Development Brief covers the issue of archaeology. The paragraph states:

“There are no Scheduled Monuments within the proposed development area. There are no known archaeological sites or finds within the site. However, a desktop assessment carried out in 2000 by Oxford Archaeological Unit concluded that the Park Way area has the potential to contain archaeology from all periods and that there is also a high potential for waterlogged deposits. A watching brief will therefore be required by the Council to monitor excavation works during the development period.”

1.3 The Newbury Town Centre Task Group has now reconsidered this final sentence and considers a more robust approach is required. As a result they are recommending that the Executive replace this final sentence with the following:

“In line with Government guidance, local plan policy and the Park Way Planning Brief, the site should be subject to detailed archaeological field evaluation by the developer. Subject to the results of this work a programme of mitigation will be drawn up that may include preservation in-situ and/or a programme of archaeological investigation, recording and publication.”

1.4 The Task Group ask the Executive to approve the amendment for inclusion in the Development Brief.

Appendices

None

Consultation Responses

Local Stakeholders: None.

Officers Consulted: Newbury Town Centre Programme Group

Trade Union: None.