

Committee(s):	Date(s):	Item no.
Planning and Transportation Committee	29 May 2018	
Subject: Postman's Park draft Supplementary Planning Document – adoption	Public	
Report of: The Chief Planning Officer	For Decision	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Summary</u></p> <p>A draft Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for the Postman's Park Conservation Area was issued for public consultation during March and April 2018. In response to comments received, several amendments are proposed, set out in Appendix B to this report.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the amendment to the Postman's Park SPD listed in Appendix B be agreed. • That Members resolve to adopt the amended Postman's Park SPD. 		

Main Report

Background

1. The draft SPD sets out policies and guidance for the management of the Postman's Park Conservation Area.
2. Section 71 (1) of the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 requires the local planning authority to "*formulate and publish proposals for the preservation and enhancement of any parts of their area which are Conservation Areas.*"
3. The National Planning Policy Framework 2012 (NPPF) requires local planning authorities to set out a "*positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment*" (para 126). It encourages assessment of the significance of designated heritage assets in advance of proposals for change.

4. The London Plan, adopted March 2015, states that heritage assets should be identified and recorded in order to sustain and enhance their significance and utilise their positive role in place shaping.
5. The City Corporation has prepared character summaries for conservation areas, under the umbrella document '*Conservation Areas in the City: A General Introduction to Their Character*' (1994). Combined character summary and management strategy SPDs have been adopted for 18 conservation areas and will be prepared for the remainder.
6. The Local Development Scheme (LDS) sets out the planning policy documents to be prepared and the timetable for preparing them. The most recent update of the LDS was approved by your Committee in June 2017 and includes a programme to complete character summaries and management strategies for the remaining conservation areas which have no document, and to revise and update existing character summaries. These are being prepared in line with current Historic England guidance on the appraisal and management of conservation areas.
7. The City Corporation's Local Plan was adopted by Court of Common Council in January 2015. Policy CS12: 'Historic Environment' seeks to preserve and enhance the distinctive character and appearance of the City's conservation areas, while allowing sympathetic development within them. The policy seeks to safeguard the City's listed buildings and their settings, while allowing appropriate adaptation and new uses. The draft SPD is consistent with the approach outlined in the Local Plan.

Current Position

8. On 29 January 2018 your Committee agreed the draft text for the Postman's Park draft SPD for formal public consultation. The draft SPD was made available for formal public consultation for a six week period from 7 March until 20 April.

Results of the SPD consultation

9. Comments were received from residents, the Guild Vicar of St Botolph Aldersgate, the City of London Archaeological Trust, Historic England and Transport for London.
10. Before adopting a SPD the local planning authority must prepare a consultation statement. This sets out the persons consulted during the preparation of the SPD, summarises the main issues raised and explains how these were addressed in finalising the SPD. The statement is attached as Appendix A.
11. It is recommended that amendments are made to the SPD in response to the comments, as set out in Appendix B to this report.
12. Additionally, minor corrections and clarifications were made throughout the draft SPD for editorial reasons.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

13. The Postman's Park SPD supports the Strategic aims of the Department Business Plan, relating to the sustainable design of the streets and spaces and the protection and enhancement of the City's built environment. These aims are met by promoting the protection and enhancement of the Postman's Park Conservation Area.
14. Equality Impact Assessments have been carried out for the draft SPD and no equality issues were identified. (Appendix D).
15. Sustainability Appraisal Screening Reports have been carried out for the draft SPD which has concluded a full Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required. This has been confirmed by statutory consultees. (Appendix E).

Implications

16. There are no financial, risk, legal, property or HR implications arising from the proposed SPD consultation and adoption process.

Conclusion

17. Subject to the amendment in Appendix B it is recommended that the SPD is adopted by resolution in accordance with statutory requirements. Under its terms of reference your Committee is authorised to adopt SPDs without reference to Common Council.

After adoption the SPD and adoption statement will be made available in accordance with statutory requirements.

Appendices

- Appendix A – Consultation Statement
- Appendix B – Schedule of Proposed Changes
- Appendix C – Postman’s Park Conservation Area Character Summary and Management Strategy SPD
- Appendix D – SEA Screening Statement
- Appendix E – EQIA test of relevance

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