

# Bury Area Working Party



*St Edmundsbury*  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>Amendments to the Article 4 Directions in the Bury St Edmunds Town Centre and Victoria Street Conservation Areas</b>	
<b>Report No:</b>	<b>BAW/SE/15/001</b>	
<b>Report to and date/s:</b>	<b>Bury St Edmunds Area Working Party</b>	10 March 2015
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<b>Purpose of report:</b>	To provide Members with a work plan for amending the Article 4 Directs in the two Bury St Edmunds Conservation Areas.	
<b>Recommendation:</b>	<b>Members to note the proposed work plan for the amendments to the Bury St Edmunds Article 4 Directions as set out in paragraph 2.4.</b>	

## **1. Background**

- 1.1 Following a recommendation from the Overview and Scrutiny Task & Finish Group, the Bury St Edmunds Area Working Party approved that consultation be carried out on the proposed amendments to the Article 4 Directions in the Bury St Edmunds Town Centre and Victoria Street Conservation Areas (report D369 of 13 May 2013 refers).
- 1.2 This was originally intended to take place in 2013/early 2014 but was delayed due to the impact of the introduction of Shared Services for the Conservation Team and the need to revisit the amendments to the Haverhill Article 4 Direction.

## **2. Work Plan**

- 2.1 It is now intended to carry out the amendments to the Bury St Edmunds Article 4 Directions during 2015, within the timescale set out below. The legislation requires that the minimum consultation period is 21 days. It is proposed, however, that it will take place for a period of six weeks, to be consistent with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement. This allows for two drop-in sessions to take place where property owners can discuss the proposals with the Conservation Officers.
- 2.2 Before the consultation can begin, the paperwork must be prepared. This includes the letter to residents, the formal Notices and Directions, site notices, press notices and press releases. The current Article 4 Direction advisory leaflet must also be amended and details of the drop-in sessions confirmed so these can be included in the residents letter.
- 2.3 The proposed new Article 4 Directions will include the removal of permitted development rights for solar panels, photo voltaic cells etc. This can only be done after giving notice and the new Directions will not become effective until approved by Cabinet. It is therefore intended to keep the process as short as possible to minimise the likelihood of works taking place prior to the Directions taking effect, whilst still giving residents sufficient time to consider the proposals and submit comments.
- 2.4 It is therefore proposed that the work plan for amending the Article 4 Directions is as follows:

Prepare paperwork: March

Consultation: Six weeks from start of April to mid-May (with drop-in sessions around weeks two and four)

Assess responses and write report: mid/end May

Report to BAWP for recommendation to Cabinet: early June

Cabinet for decision: late June

Confirm amendments (if approved): July