

DUNDEE LOCAL PLAN REVIEW

SITE PLANNING BRIEF

FORMER DENS METALS SITE DENS ROAD, STOBSWELL, DUNDEE

SEPTEMBER 2008



Supplementary Planning Policy Guidance is prepared by the Council in consultation with interested parties and provides additional Policy on land use and other planning matters of local importance.

Planning Advice is prepared by the Council to offer information and good practice on various planning related matters.

Site Planning Briefs are prepared by the Council in consultation with local communities and provide site specific guidance to developers and others regarding the development of potential sites.

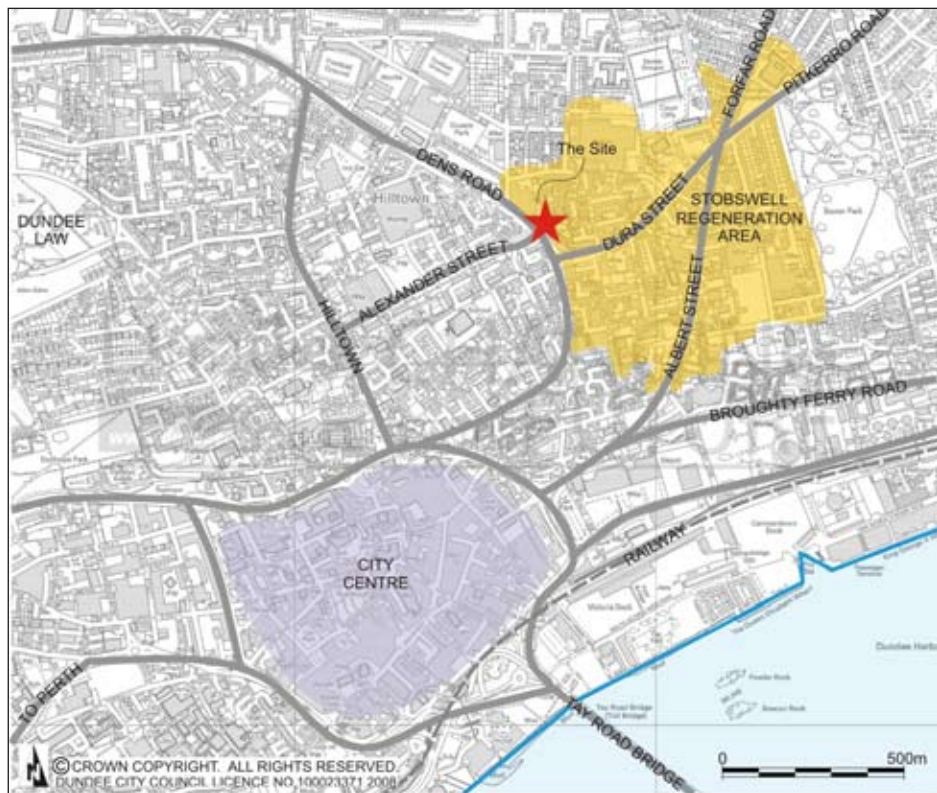
THE FORMER DENS METALS SITE- SITE DEVELOPMENT BRIEF

INTRODUCTION

This Site Planning Brief is supplementary planning guidance to the Dundee Local Plan Review 2005 providing site specific policy guidance for developers and designers in order that an informed design solution is achieved for the satisfactory redevelopment of this site.

The vacant former Dens Metals site is a brownfield site situated in a prominent location at the junction of Dens Road and Alexander Street, on the edge of the Stobswell Regeneration Area. The site, extending to 0.266ha, is owned by Dundee City Council.

Since 2002 the Stobswell Partnership, an alliance between Dundee City Council, Scottish Enterprise Tayside, NHS Tayside and Tayside Police have directed significant funding and resources for the regeneration of the Stobswell area in order to recreate an attractive place where 'people choose to live and



work'. The former Dens Metals site provides the opportunity to create an attractive and high-quality residential development in a very prominent location that contributes to the regeneration projects in Stobswell.

LOCATION & SITE HISTORY

The site :

- is located on the western edge of the Stobswell Regeneration Area and is situated between the Albert Street District Shopping Area of Stobswell and the Hilltown District Shopping area both of which are a 15 minute walk away.
- has excellent cross city transportation connections as well as being near to a large range of commercial and recreational amenities within the city centre, less than 1km to the south along Victoria Road.
- is bounded to the north and east by a steep embankment of trees and Abertay Housing Association housing beyond; to the north west by the Dens Road market complex; to the south and west by Dens Road, and the site is on axis with the eastern end of Alexander Street.



Location Map

From the mid to the late 19th century the site was a gravel pit and then latterly cooling ponds for the adjacent spinning mill. In the mid 20th century the ponds were filled in and the Dens Metals smelting building was erected. The site remained as Dens Metals smelting works until the late 1990s.

In 2005 the site was cleared of all buildings to the satisfaction of the City Engineer in anticipation of future development and the land-clearance project files are available for inspection. These documents however do not form part of the sales particulars for the site and an independent site investigations by interested parties is advised.



Site Plan

PLANNING HISTORY

In 2005 planning permission was given for 29 townhouses and 14 apartments to be built on the area covered by the Dens Road Market and the former Dens Metals Site, Planning Application 05/00212/Ful (see overleaf). The 14 apartments were located on the former Dens Metals Site, and were justified on townscape planning grounds because a four-storey apartment building would form an attractive new focal point to the eastern end of Alexander Street. However, vehicular access for the approved planning application layout access was through the area occupied by Dens Road Market and in order to access the former Dens Metals site a new vehicular access will have to be constructed directly off Dens Road. (See Vehicular Access section).

FUTURE LAND USES

The City Council is determined to achieve a high standard of redevelopment with all new development opportunities in Dundee and many parts of the wider Stobswell area are undergoing land-use change from industrial and commercial premises to housing. This vacant site offers opportunity for designers and developers to positively reshape the built character of this area and contribute to the regeneration successes of Stobswell.

The former Dens Metals site is appropriate for residential redevelopment only. Continual development of new housing in the Stobswell area will provide greater dwelling choice in order to retain families and attract new-comers to settle providing for the general long-term sustainability of Stobswell.



Planning Application No. 05/00212/FUL - Site Plan

THE DESIGN STATEMENT & PRE-APPLICATION MEETINGS

The Dundee Local Plan Review 2005, Policy 55 'Urban Design' states that "The City Council requires the use of a Design Statement for planning applications for listed buildings, for new buildings or extensions to existing buildings on significant sites". The former Dens Metals site is regarded as a 'significant site' because of its townscape value visually terminating the east end of Alexander Street and a Design Statement must be submitted with the planning application. The Design Statement must illustrate an exploration of the site context and should include clear diagrams indicating the selection of a range of option layouts, construction materials etc. Comprehensive guidance on the preparation and content of Design Statements is provided in the Scottish Government's Planning Advice Note 68 'Design Statement'.

The use of pre-application discussions between relevant Dundee City Council Planning and Transportation Department Officers and the developer / agent are encouraged early in the design process and will aid the production of an appropriate Design Statement that clearly demonstrates the merits of redevelopment proposals. (Officer contacts are provided on page 9.)



Concept layout - to aid the analysis of future form and massing on the site.

DESIGN GUIDANCE & STANDARDS

The Dundee Local Plan Review 2005 at Appendix 1 generally requires such an 'Inner City' site to be developed with houses only, however given the townscape importance and the topography of the site, this site planning brief anticipates that only apartments will be built on the site in order that the overall design, scale and massing of the proposals meets the expectation of a high quality focal point building. It is envisaged that up to 16 apartments could be built on the site to the requirements of Policy 5 of the Dundee Local Plan Review 2005 and in accordance with the relevant Dundee Local Plan Review 2005 Appendix 1 Standards. No dwellings built within the site will be granted an H.M.O. licence in order to encourage greater owner/occupied tenure in the Stobswell area.

Dundee Local Plan Review 2005 Appendix 1 - 'Design of New Housing' quantitative policy standards applicable to the site include:

1) **Flats /Apartments**

a) **'Flat Type'**

All flats to have a minimum of 80sqm living accommodation to help achieve a better mix of flat sizes and internal layouts within the Stobswell area.

b) **'Car / Cycle Provision'**

All flats to have 130% car parking provided within the curtilage of the site. Secure indoor storage for cycles and household waste must be provided.

c) **'Amenity / Garden Space'**

A minimum of 100sqm of usable private communal garden ground should be provided, or 10sqm per flat whichever is the greater with clothes drying area in addition. The provision of usable balconies is encouraged however their provision will not enable a reduction of the extent of the private communal area.

d) **'Privacy'**

A minimum distance of 18m is to be maintained between the facing windows of habitable rooms or between balconies and the facing windows of habitable rooms. Living room windows and balconies should not unacceptably overlook private gardens of houses.

ASPIRATIONS FOR THE NEW BUILDING

A high standard of site planning and architectural design are required to create the positive 'sense of character' a good new building can give to this site. The thoughtful integration of townscape modelling and careful orientation of buildings to maximise solar gain should be the starting points to developing a successful site layout. The high quality of design anticipated will also be achieved through the use of contemporary modern architectural styles, construction details and landscape features, as well as through the innovative use of materials that respond harmoniously with the surrounding area to create a valued 21st century contribution to Dens Road and Alexander Street.

The Dundee Local Plan Review 2005, Policy 57 'Visual Impact on Major Routes' applies to the determination of this site and requires that development improves the quality of the environment of Dundee along important routes through the city. Dens Road and Alexander Street are important routes through the City.

BUILDING FORM AND SITE LAYOUT

To balance the need for an appropriate new building line and to provide a privacy to ground floor dwellings from noise generated by vehicles and pedestrians along Dens Road it is anticipated that the new building line will be set back from the rear of the footway. This buffer area should be an area of soft-landscaped garden ground with a boundary to Dens Road formed by well designed walls or appropriate hedging etc.

The overall height of the building is expected to be four storeys with a roof however, given the surrounding topography the building may be five storeys in height providing that its proposed height is justified by accurate drawings/ images showing the proposal in the context of adjacent dwellings and ground levels.

Under-croft ground floor car parking is acceptable in order to maximise the use of communal garden grounds to the rear of the site and to guard against any privacy concerns. Nonetheless under-croft parking requires detailed design as an inactive and bland ground floor elevation will not be supported, nor will the provision of undercroft parking remove the need for a landscaped "buffer" area.

An area of public green space and a children's' play area are located adjacent to the south and east of the site and it may be advantageous to locate the communal garden area and clothes drying area within the south and east area. Controlled pedestrian access to the development should also be provided to give easy access to the network of paths surrounding the site.

SECURED BY DESIGN STATUS

The Tayside Police Architectural Liaison Officer must be consulted by the Applicant / Agent in order to achieve 'Secured by Design' status consistent with the other requirements of this brief. The achievement of the 'Secured by Design' criteria must be included within the content of the Design Statement.

ELEVATIONS

It is anticipated that all elevations will have a high window to wall ratio to take advantage of solar gain and the views from the site, as well as to give a generous and contemporary aesthetic to the buildings. No direction on architectural style is provided other than to state that the Dundee Urban Design Guide 2001 encourages "imaginative and innovative contemporary architecture" and "discourages "off-the-peg" design and debased versions of historical styles". The site is in a very prominent location at an important cross-city junction and the design quality is of paramount importance to all elevations. The west elevation will form a new edge to Dens Road, the south elevation provides a place of architectural opportunity facing south onto Dens Road and the east elevation should be regarded as an informal elevation to the rear courtyard/car parking area.

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

It is expected that the construction facing materials will be of a high quality and the careful selection of innovative cladding systems, natural stone or other materials will be encouraged to achieve a strong and attractive architectural aesthetic. The use of sustainable construction systems and techniques is encouraged to promote good environmental practice with the redevelopment of this brownfield site.

ROAD SAFETY AND VEHICULAR ACCESS

Vehicular access to the site can only be achieved by upgrading the existing three-way light controlled junction of Dens Road/Alexander Street and creating a fourth light controlled arm to the existing junction. This new access point will be formed directly in line with the mid-point of Alexander Street and will be the sole means for vehicular access/egress from the former Dens Metals Site. The necessity to upgrade to the junction, including new traffic lights, will be carried out by the developer prior to the redevelopment of the site. The new roadway created to service the development will be constructed in accordance with the

current Dundee City Council “Streets Ahead” Roads Standards, however from the new junction the internal road and parking area will not be adopted by Dundee City Council. A schedule of appropriate hard landscaping materials is provided within the “Streets Ahead” Roads Standards and the selection of high quality finishing materials with low maintenance requirements and attractive finish and colour is encouraged to contribute to the overall high quality of development expected.

Revised road markings may be necessary as part of the redevelopment and vehicular access alterations will be carried out at the developers expense.

STREET LIGHTING

Street lighting within the site will be an integral part of redevelopment and the Dundee City Council Street Lighting Team should be consulted upon lighting proposals (Contact Lindsey McGregor, Team Leader, 10382 834132).

Dundee City Council's “Road Safety Audit Procedures” requires that a Road Safety Audit and a Transport Statement will be submitted as part of the planning application for the site.

LANDSCAPE

The creation of a small area of communal greenspace, is expected to form a 'set-back' from Dens Road and should contain limited tree planting of an appropriately mature specification to provide privacy and seasonal interest. The steep embankment to the rear of the site contains some semi-mature trees that should be retained and the remainder of this area should be cleared of weeds and ground cover and re-landscaped with appropriate plants. All communal landscaping will be subject to a maintenance agreement which must be submitted as part of the planning application.

DRAINAGE

The Dundee Local Plan Review 2005, Policy 75 'Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems' (SUDS)- states that "All appropriate development proposals must be accompanied by a Sustainable Drainage Scheme at the time of submitting a planning application. This must be supplemented by a Drainage Impact Assessment that shows the impact of a 1 in 200-year rainstorm event". Pre-application guidance should be sought from the Dundee City Council SUDS Group as to the form the drainage scheme for the site should take. (Contact Linda Robinson, Assistant Engineer, tel. 01382 433433).

USEFUL OFFICER CONTACTS

DCC Economic Development Department :

Colin Craig, Estates Manager, DCC Economic Development Department, tel. 01382 434349 or email colin.craig@dundee.gov.uk, and

DCC Planning and Transportation Department :

Nigel McDowell, Planning Officer, Partnership and Regeneration Team, tel. 01382 433464, or email nigel.mcdowell@dundee.gov.uk and

Charlie Walker, Senior Planning Officer, Development Quality Case-officer, tel. 01382 433378 or email charlie.walker@dundee.gov.uk

Linda Robinson, Assistant Engineer, Development Quality Team, tel 01382 433433 or email linda/robinson@dundee.gov.uk.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Dundee Local Plan Review 2005 (*Approved August 2005*)

Dundee and Angus Structure Plan 2001-2016 (*Approved October 2002*)

Dundee Urban Design Guide, Planning and Transportation Department, Dundee City Council, 2002

Dundee Sustainable Development Guide for Construction, Sustainable Construction Working Group, Dundee City Council, 2006

Dundee - Streets Ahead, Planning and Transportation Department, Dundee City Council, 2005

The Development Quality Service: A User's Guide, Planning and Transportation Department, Dundee City Council, 1998 (*revised September 2006*).

All available to download via the Planning and Transportation section of the City Council website - www.dundee.gov.uk

Useful Links

Locate Dundee	www.locate-dundee.com
Dundee Information Portal	www.dundee.com
Dundee City of Discovery	www.cityofdiscovery.com
Dundee Partnership	www.dundeepartnership.com

2/Planning and Transportation/Transportation/Transportation
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如果閣下對英語不十分明白，請與以下地址聯絡：

Dundee Translation Unit, Dundee City Council, Central Library, Wellgate Centre, Dundee, DD1 1DB



CONTACT DETAILS :
T : 01382 433833
w : www.dundee.gov.uk

Planning and Transportation Department, Dundee City Council, Tayside House, Crichton Street, Dundee, DD1 3RB