

CONSULTATION RESPONSE
WESTSIDE REGENERATION DISTRICT

To: via Business.SupportUnit@dsdni.gov.uk

DEPARTMENT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
REGENERATION MASTERPLAN – WESTSIDE REGENERATION DISTRICT

0.1 This response sets out the Alliance Party's stance related to the principles set out in its response to the *Programme for Government and Budget* in January 2008.

1. Response

1.1 The Alliance Party is broadly happy with plan as it stands. Specifically:

- We broadly support the principles behind the plan (Page 8);
- We are happy with the preferred concept masterplan (Pages 16 & 17);
- We recognize the potential benefits of the masterplan (Pages 18 & 19).

1.2 However, we are concerned about three key points:

- Delivery of the plan requires joined-up working by so many agencies, departments, community groups (as well as the City Council) that we are uncertain as to the viability of the masterplan given over-bureaucratic government structures;
- Delivery of the plan, further, requires fuller consultation with those impacted upon by the plan, including residents and businesspeople – our experience in the past is that consultations are either not expansive enough or, more likely, create unrealistic expectations of delivery; and

Alliance Party Consultation Response

- The Plan is not fully proofed for its impact upon segregation along sectarian lines, the local economy, and sustainable development – there are steps in the right direction, but we would seek full proofing.

2. Conclusion

2.1 The Masterplan, in principle, is broadly to be supported as it stands. However, further action is required before it becomes feasible.

2.2 Firstly, fuller consideration needs to be given as to who precisely is responsible for what, with assurances that there will be appropriate lines of accountability. Secondly, expectations of what the plan will deliver must be held at a realistic level by those responsible for its delivery. Thirdly, there should be full proofing of the plan – before and during its development – for its impact on segregation, the local economy and sustainable development.

2.3 The Alliance Party would seek full involvement at each stage of the process, via its Belfast constituency offices and its policy team at Stormont.

Cllr Ian James Parsley (Policy)

20 August 2008

Young, Brian

From: Parsley, Ian [Ian.Parsley@niassembly.gov.uk]
Sent: 19 August 2008 10:57
To: Business Support Unit
Subject: AP CONSULTATION: Westside Regeneration
Attachments: W_0807_SD_Consultation Response - Westside.doc

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find our formal response to Westside Regeneration attached.

Yours faithfully,

Cllr Ian James Parsley
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20/08/2008

