

Our ref: NI 2110 Banbridge Town Centre Public Realm

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Date: 20 January 2021

Via Email

Dear Sir/Madam,

Proposal: Public Realm improvements comprising resurfacing of existing footpaths and spaces; new/replacement tree planting, street and feature lighting, new/replacement railings and walls; new/replacement street furniture; realignment of roadside kerbs; improvements to on-street parking spaces and pedestrian crossings; and all associated site and access works.

Location: Lands adjacent to 1-17 Castlewellan Road, Church Square, 36 Bridge Street, 1-11 Dromore Street, 1 Downshire Road, 1-77 Bridge Street, 1-104 Newry Street, 1-17 Linenhall Street, Commercial Road, The Mall, 1-28 Scarva Street, 1-9 Downshire Place, Victoria Street, Old Kenlis Street, 1-2 Newry Road, Downshire Bridge and the Cut, and the Bann Bridge, Banbridge

I write to advise that Armagh City, Banbridge, and Craigavon Borough Council is currently preparing a planning application for submission in relation to the above development. The proposal is deemed to be a 'major development' and consequently, the Council is undertaking Pre-Application Community Consultation in line with the requirements of the planning legislation.

The purpose of the pre-application community consultation exercise, in advance of submitting the application, is to ensure that the local community is informed about the application and can make any subsequent enquiries to find out more about it. Ultimately, it allows the Council to gather the views of the local community and other stakeholders, so that they can be taken into account before the scheme design is finalised, prior to submission.

In normal circumstances we would organise a community event or manned exhibition where interested members of the community could attend a local venue in the town centre, view the development proposals and directly engage with the project team to answer any queries or concerns they may have.

In light of the current Government restrictions on public assembly, the Department for Infrastructure has issued temporary regulations that enable alternative arrangements, including online public events, to be undertaken to inform and interact with the local community. The project team has made such arrangements and advertised them in the local newspaper (Banbridge Leader and Banbridge Chronicle) in line with the requirements of the legislation.

In addition to that, we are writing to you directly to advise of the community consultation process and to explain how you can get involved, should you wish to do so.

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We have created a dedicated website which replicates the information that would be available at an actual public consultation event together with instructions on how to access the information, seek further clarification and to provide comments/feedback. The website will contain background information on the project, draft design drawings, details on how and when you can engage with the applicant and design team, and information on how to provide feedback /comments on the proposals.

The enclosed Information Leaflet provides a brief overview of the draft proposals, and signposts how to access the website to view the proposals in more detail, engage with the design team, and provide comments. A hard copy of the Feedback Form is also enclosed, should you wish to provide comments by post.

If you cannot access the materials online, please contact us by telephone on Tel: 0203 196 6488, leaving your name, address, and a contact telephone number.

I trust this is of assistance. Should you require any further information please use the contact details above.

Yours sincerely,
for RPS Ireland Limited (NI)



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