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PRESS RELEASE

'GET YOUR COMMENTS IN' – PUBLIC ENCOURAGED TO HAVE THEIR SAY ON BILLINGHAM TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION PROPOSALS

Developers keen to receive views ahead of 30 November deadline

Billingham residents and businesses are being asked to ensure they have their say on the proposals for regenerating the town centre before the 30 November deadline. The consultation, which is being run by developer Stockland in partnership with Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council, was launched on 2 November and is shortly drawing to a close.

People can register their comments by completing a feedback form. Forms are available from the Town Centre Manager's Office at 130 Queensway, Roseberry Library, Billingham Library (on Bedale Avenue) and can also be completed on Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council's website at www.stockton.gov.uk/billingham

The public exhibition features plans and details on the proposals for investing in and regenerating Billingham town centre. During the period that it was staffed by the Development Team (Monday 2 – Wednesday 4 November) more than 150 people visited the exhibition in the first hour of opening and more than 1,600 people visited in total.

Stockland is also delighted to report that the display of the plans – currently visible in the shop windows at 108 Queensway – has been extended. The display stands, which had been due to be removed on Saturday 14 November, will now stay in place until Monday 30 November giving people a greater opportunity to view the proposals and return their comments. The consultation information is also available on the website – www.stockton.gov.uk/billingham

Simon Hoad, Development Director for Stockland, said: "It's important for everyone who wants to be involved in the consultation process to get their comments in. We've had an excellent response so far and are pleased to extend the exhibition at 108 Queensway through to 30 November. Our message to those people who may not yet have completed a feedback form is 'please let us have your comments, ideas and opinions – they are important and appreciated'. We can then move forward with a stronger set of proposals that are informed by the feedback we receive."



The consultation focuses on the emerging Masterplan for upgrading Billingham's shopping centre, including proposals for a new food store in West Precinct, improvements to shop frontages, new lighting, paving, and a general overhaul of the town's main shopping area.

Feedback from the consultation will be used to refine the proposals ahead of the Masterplan being formally agreed with Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council. A 'Consultation Report' will be published on the Council's website before Christmas.

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Notes to editors

The Masterplan is being brought forward by Stockland working with Colman Architects and a professional team.

The Masterplan will provide a framework to shape the regeneration of Billingham Town Centre. Specific proposals for new shops and/or major changes to the Town Centre will require planning permission in their own right. Planning applications would be brought forward to Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council in line with the statutory process.

Further information on Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council's plans/policies for regeneration of Billingham Town Centre is available on the Council's website at www.stockton.gov.uk/billingham or from Louise McDonald / Nicola Garnham in the Regeneration Team.

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