



St Modwen Properties

15 August 2007

FURTHER PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON ST MODWEN SCHEMES

Submission of planning application up to a year away

Gary Morris, Development Director for St Modwen comments:

"As we move towards the final conclusion of the Development Agreement with Arun District Council, we feel it is important to confirm the next key stages of the development process to the local community. We are committed to public consultation for both sites and want to re-iterate that there *will* be the opportunity, over a number of occasions, for the community to get involved with the design process.

"Delivery of a sustainable scheme which benefits Bognor Regis as a whole is key. Therefore, we have been working closely with Arun District Council to progress the legal agreement efficiently, and agree an approach to the delivery of schemes, across both sites, which will ensure they work for the local community as well as attracting new visitors to the area."

The next stages are as follows:

The 'Development Agreement': The signing of the legal agreement (known as the Development Agreement) between the Council and St Modwen is expected in September.

Planning application timescales: From the signing of the 'Development Agreement', St Modwen has 12 months to submit a planning application. Given the vast amount of work and extensive consultation required, it is expected that the application will not be submitted before summer 2008.

The masterplan: Speculation on various elements of the masterplan has been featured in the local press over the last few months and this has generated a number of comments from local people. St Modwen accepts that the seafront building was one of the proposals that caught the imagination of the community and attracted them to their proposals as a whole. The suggestions put forward for that building's use, following the results of the Locum entertainment and cultural study are, at this stage, just ideas, which will be subject to public consultation over the next few months before any firm proposals are drawn up. Aside from a few changes to the initial concept, the content of the masterplan, with which St Modwen won the developer competition last year, still stands.

Public consultation: The consultation undertaken to date by Arun District Council, up to and including the developer competition process, has been well documented in this and other publications and is reiterated in the letters pages today by Richard McMann, Bognor Regis Regeneration Task Force Coordinator. Over the next couple of months, St Modwen will be working up more detailed proposals for the two sites, which will then go out to public consultation. Until a planning application is submitted in the second half of next year, the detailed design of the scheme will be an ongoing, organic process based on feedback received from a number of public and stakeholder consultation exercises. All public consultation will be widely promoted to allow the community at large to participate and have their say.

If the community has any questions relating to the above statement or the consultation process, please contact St Modwen's Community Relations Officers, M&N Communications on 01483 415 915. (Contact details can be printed)

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For Further Media Information:

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