



SOG Limited

**Executive Summary of
Planning Process
CATALOGUE NUMBER 2.07A**



**HEATH
PARK**

GREEN INNOVATION

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HEATH PARK

PLANNING: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The concept of Heath Park was first considered in 2009 when Halton BC produced their own paper "*The Heath: 2030 and Beyond*" which acknowledged the pioneering regeneration work of SOG Ltd in transforming the redundant ICI HQ site into a thriving Business and Technical Park and, significantly, referenced the importance of integrating land to the north of Heath Road South and the opportunities for the introduction of non-employment uses, specifically residential and retail uses. The paper emphasised the need to ensure the retention and improvement of the business offer, but also stressed the importance of enhancing the existing contribution to the environment and the local community.

The Heath Park Project now being presented is the result of a long-standing partnership with Halton BC and their contribution in crafting the proposals has been invaluable.

As evidence of this partnership, there have been regular meetings with Halton BC Councillors and Planning Officers over the years to discuss master planning options, all with the intention of protecting an important employment and community base, and various planning options have been tested leaning towards a mixed-use solution. Planning applications for housing, retail and a hotel have all been supported and approved (see docs 2.07D), as well as work towards an SPD to guide further development, but not implemented due to imminent Local Plan developments.

These imminent developments prompted the launch of the Heath Park Project following submission of Halton BC's Delivery and Allocations Local Plan 2014-2037 in March 2020 as specific allocations were included that formally affirmed support for mixed use development at The Heath. The Project commenced with an RIBA International Design Competition sponsored by SOG Ltd and the winners were commissioned to develop their ideas into a commercially viable masterplan. Halton BC were informed of progress throughout this process and minutes of the formal pre-application discussions are available (doc 2.07B). These discussions culminated in a Formal Pre-Application Submission in August 2021 and Halton BC's response (doc 2.07B) confirms acceptance with current 2013 Planning Policies and alignment with the submitted DALP.

The 2014-2037 DALP, which will replace the 2013 Core Strategy, underwent examination in February to June 2021 and adoption is expected in Spring 2022.

Heath Park has the active support and involvement of not only the leaders of Halton BC political and administrative officers (doc 1.05) but is also commended by those from regional and national interests (docs 1.05).

FURTHER INFORMATION

Heath Park Property Specialist

Tim Metson - BSc (Hons) MRICS

M: 07974 674876 D: 01483 801092

email: tim.metson@heathpark-uk.com

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