This is an executive summary of the City Road Neighbourhood Development Framework (NDF).

It is a short document that aims to explain what the NDF is for and the main issues that have been considered in preparing the plan. The report goes onto explain the vision that has been prepared for the study area and the broad principles behind the major projects proposed.

The Purpose of the Neighbourhood Development Framework

The aim of the NDF is to provide a vision for the area being studied to become part of a more sustainable community in South Sheffield. To help achieve this the NDF will include a framework to guide physical regeneration projects and other development along the City Road corridor and in Manor Top.

The intention is for the City Road NDF to be adopted by Sheffield City Council as a material consideration therefore embedding the principles into the planning framework. The NDF will be used as background for more detailed work to be carried out.

The Vision

The vision for the City Road corridor and Manor Top is to make it more of a ‘destination’; a place of purpose and a place to belong rather than a place to ‘pass through’. This is important as the study area acts as a window into a number of the South Sheffield neighbourhoods and has great potential as a driver of change, especially in terms of image and how the area is perceived.

The aim is to balance the role of the area as a movement corridor, with the need to establish effective ‘hubs of activity’ that create a lively and characterful place. This vision for the City Road corridor creates a platform for social and economic transformation of the South Sheffield neighbourhoods.

The Study Area

The NDF area for the City Road corridor extends from Park Square roundabout in the City Centre to, and including, Manor Top shopping area. It has been chosen because it falls within the HMR area for the South of Sheffield and it presents an excellent opportunity to change the perception of the area to a large number of people.

Priority Action Themes

To ensure that the vision for City Road corridor is achieved three priority action themes have been developed to capitalise on the strengths of the area, they are;

Priority action theme 1: Creating areas of character
Priority action theme 2: Celebrating the parks
Priority action theme 3: Getting movement right

Table A summarises the findings of the NDF, the current picture and the key proposals to achieve the vision.

Housing Market Renewal (HMR)

The HMR programme gives local authorities the opportunity to deliver regeneration projects in communities and neighbourhoods to help them become more successful and sustainable now and in the future. The HMR programme recognises that successful neighbourhoods are defined by more than just housing, access to services and facilities are critical to a neighbourhood’s success.
Priority Action Theme 1: Creating Areas of Character

The table opposite summarises the findings of the NDF, the current picture and the key proposals to achieve the vision.

The creation of a number of nodes like ‘pearls on a string’ as highlighted will encourage destination points, enlivening areas of the City Road corridor. The term ‘node’ refers to a place where activities and routes come to a point or cross. These nodes will provide a range of facilities for local residents, each with it’s own function. The Corridor Concepts plan, on the opposite page, illustrates the pearls on a string approach.

Node 1 – Park Hill/Duke Street Node

Investment is already planned in this area with the Park Hill regeneration. Along with street improvements along Duke Street and the existing shops and facilities at Duke Street, the aim here is to create a gateway, or advertisement, for South Sheffield. This node will particularly focus on how Park Hill relates to Duke Street at the bottom of the City Road Corridor, ensuring that linkages through at the top end of Park Hill also connect well to the surrounding neighbourhoods. An improved street scene and landscaping will allow Duke Street to capitalise on the regeneration of Park Hill. Proposals for this node include improved pedestrian crossings, clear connections to surrounding neighbourhoods, improved street lighting and street furniture.

Node 2 – Duke Street Shops

This node provides a good meeting point for several neighbourhoods, Norfolk Park, Wybourn, Park Hill and Skye Edge. Reflecting this importance, and the fact that there are a number of existing shops here, a new Neighbourhood Service Centre will be formally designated at this point. Proposals for this node include improved pedestrian crossings, clear connections to surrounding neighbourhoods, improved street lighting and street furniture.
Node 3 – St. Aidan’s Hub

We want to support the existing community facilities at this cross roads and to encourage complementary new uses and facilities to join them. The proposals include clearer links to Manor Lodge, improvements to the streets and architectural lighting of St Aidan’s Church. All of which will help to create a distinct character to this part of the City Road corridor.

Node 4 – Manor Fields Gateway

Manor Fields Park has the potential to be an important open space for residents and visitors alike, however, to many people it is currently hidden away or maybe even seen as unsafe. This node aims to open up the park onto City Road and to create a hub of activity associated with the park. Proposals here include an exciting new gateway building on the edge of the park, new housing looking over the park, car parking facilities, improved street scene and lighting and also improved pedestrian crossings and park facilities encouraging people to come to the area.

Node 5 – Manor Top

Manor Top needs to perform well as a District Service Centre as it is an important part of creating transformational change in the area. It is important that the right facilities for residents are there, providing an important destination at the top of the corridor. It has the potential to be an attractive landmark and well used centre. A group will be formed consisting of traders, council officers and residents to ensure that priorities for improvement are addressed, community safety, the street scene, the offer of shops, facilities, car parking and so on. This will help to create a lively well-used centre that fits the needs of residents.

During the October 2006 consultation the Council presented some proposals to encourage an anchor store on the Territorial Army site at Manor Top. After a detailed transport assessment this option has now been dismissed due to the negative impact on traffic and public transport.

Corridor-wide Initiatives

Along with the nodes there are proposals for corridor wide initiatives including improved street paving the planting of street trees, side junction improvements and parking initiatives.
Priority Action Theme 2: Celebrating the Parks

There are a large amount of green and open spaces in the area and Skye Edge, Norfolk Park, Manor Lodge, Manor Fields and the Woodthorpe Ravine present a great opportunity to support the vision of the City Road NDF and show the rest of Sheffield what great assets the south of the City has. Table B summarises the findings of the NDF, the current picture and the key proposals to achieve the vision.

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Priority Action Theme 3: Getting Movement Right

Presently the City Road corridor mainly acts as a route through the area, hence the term ‘corridor’. By addressing the three priority action themes this NDF attempts to change that. It is important that we get movement for pedestrians, car and public transport users correct as the corridor acts as an important local public transport corridor for adjacent communities and for people travelling through the area. The key locations for transport change are at the nodal points. Table C summarises the findings of the NDF, the current picture and the key proposals to achieve the vision.

Consultation

In October 2006 consultation took place on initial ideas regarding the City Road NDF. There was broad support for these ideas which enabled the City Council to look at how deliverable these projects are and it is this that has allowed us to present the above proposals in the final City Road NDF. Concerns over transport and in particular parking were identified as a problem in the area and therefore this has been addressed in the final report and proposals. The final consultation took place in August 2007 where advanced proposals were shown to residents. There was support for these improvements with 90% of residents believing these proposals would benefit the City Road corridor.

Next Steps

By creating a strong sense of place along the City Road corridor with gateways to surrounding neighbourhoods this NDF aims to address the image of the area. This NDF working alongside other projects identified within supporting documents will help to contribute to the regeneration and economic and social vibrancy of the wider South Sheffield area.

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### Background information

#### Assets and opportunities

- Nodal points are located where communities can come together
- Existing regeneration activity at some nodes, namely Park Hill, Manor Fields and Manor Top
- Important transport route for the City
- Very well connected to major road networks

#### Challenges and threats

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- Limited parking and development opportunities
- Highway regulation enforcement
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### Proposal and Projects

#### Key themes and objectives

- Attracting people to the nodes and hubs and encourage them to stay
- Improved car parking to encourage the above

#### Projects

- Cycle route up City Road corridor
- Detailed feasibility work carried out on car parking options
- Establish clear destination points, ‘serial vision’.
- Improvements at each nodal point both at junctions and pedestrian crossing