FOREWORD

Exeter City Council’s Local Plan is the key means by which the community can manage the future development of the City up to 2011. Some people often see the planning system as being there to stop a new development that they don’t like. Others, particularly people in business, see planning as stopping them from getting on with schemes which will help their business to expand.

In fact, the legal basis of the planning system says that there is a presumption in favour of development which accords with the Local Plan unless material planning considerations outweigh development. This Local Plan is, therefore, needed for various reasons:

- to guide development to the right locations;
- to set out what standards must be met so that any development is of good quality;
- to indicate where the Council wants to prevent any development – usually because of environmental issues.

We want to ensure that Exeter continues to be an attractive and vital City with a high quality of life and a strong business infrastructure, supported by a skilled workforce. Our challenge is to develop the City as a key hub of the regional economy but in such a way that protects Exeter’s character and environment for future generations.

Councillor Hazel Slack  Councillor Mike Mills
Chair, Development  Portfolio Holder,
Control Committee  Planning and Sustainable Development
Exeter City Council  Exeter City Council

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