

New Library and retail unit, May Day Green.

Air Quality Statement.

Following early engagement with BMBC's LA Planning Dept (Mr. C. Shields) it was agreed that a full 'Air Quality Impact Assessment' in relation to the Library reserved matters application, was not required and that the following statement in support of the application would suffice.

The proposed new Library and retail building situated at the junction of May Day Green and Eldon Street, sits on the site of former retail units which are to be demolished. The site is bounded by a pedestrian zone to the south and east and by Eldon Street to the north. No dedicated parking is provided within the site.

The proposed Library will replace the facility currently located on Wellington Street, to the opposite end of Cheapside. The existing facility is situated at the edge of the Town Centre and can be accessed via the existing pedestrianised zone. The new Library is located closer to the centre of town and within the bounds of the existing pedestrian zone and will be similarly accessed via the existing Transport Interchange (Rail / Bus) and the existing car park network.

Also the central book storage facility for BMBC's Library Service, currently located at Wellington House, will remain there for the foreseeable future. This will ensure that vehicle movements associated with the distribution of books throughout the borough is not brought into the heart of the town.

Therefore it is understood that the proposed new Library and retail building will not increase vehicle movements within town centre and therefore will not be detrimental to the current air quality.

However, although additional mitigation may be required as further development sites are brought forward within the 'Better Barnsley' Masterplan (Planning ref: 15/0549), the first site to be developed, the former CEAG site as the Market Gate Car Park (Planning ref: 15/0362), provides mitigation in the form of two electric vehicle charging points. The points provide free access to electric charging for car park customers in order to promote the use of electric vehicles within the borough.

Air quality in the vicinity of the site has now been monitored for some time as other buildings have been demolished and will continue throughout the demolition phase. Mitigation and the control of dust during this phase will be in accordance with the requirements of the Section 81 Notice.