# Tree Policy Task & Finish Group

Planning & Development

#### **Richard Cowell**

Assistant Director Development





### Structure

Overview of City's growth agenda

Balancing competing factors / outcomes

#### Approach

- Planning Guidance
- Masterplans
- Projects
- Planning applications

# BDP Vision: Birmingham in 2031

By 2031 Birmingham will be renowned as an enterprising, innovative and green City that has delivered sustainable growth meeting the needs of its population and strengthening its global competitiveness.

# Birmingham's Growth Agenda

150,000 increase in population

700,000 additional trips daily on the network

100,000 new jobs

81,000 new homes with land for 51,100 identified

£4billion of infrastructure investment



# Birmingham Development Plan

#### Policies

#### PG3 place making

......Take opportunities to make sustainable design integral to development, such as green infrastructure, sustainable drainage and energy generating features.

#### TP7 green infrastructure network

The City Council will also seek to conserve and enhance Birmingham's woodland resource (collectively known as 'The Birmingham Forest'). Particular attention will be given to protecting the City's ancient woodlands as irreplaceable semi-natural habitats. All trees, groups, areas and woodlands will be consistently and systematically evaluated for protection and all new development schemes should allow for tree planting in both the private and public domains. The importance of street trees in promoting the character of place and strengthening existing landscape characteristics will be recognised.

# **Balancing Competing Factors**

Economic, environmental & social considerations

Development challenges and pressures

Site constraints

Local character

Utilities/Infrastructure

Viability

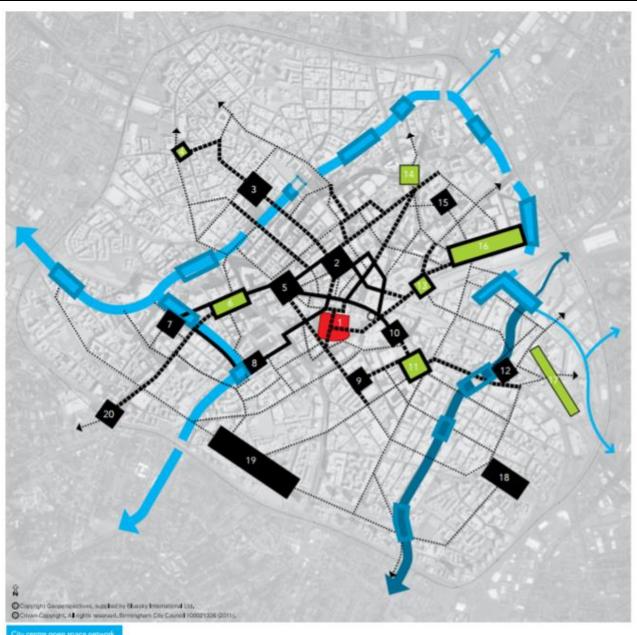
# Industrial Landscape



# Motor-city



# **Future** City Big City Plan



# Birmingham Design Guide

Will add detail and guidance for development

#### Birmingham ID

Importance of existing trees to City's identity & character

#### **Streets & Connectivity**

Role of urban trees in creating quality places & spaces

#### Green Infrastructure

Need for new trees in development sites Protection of existing trees Designing trees into development sites

# Birmingham Design Guide

Development stages:

Vision document consultation – Oct / Nov 2017

Draft Design Guide published and consultation – Spring 2018

Adoption of Design Guide – Winter 2018

# Masterplanning

key moves | area / landscape analysis | key retentions | broad landscape gains



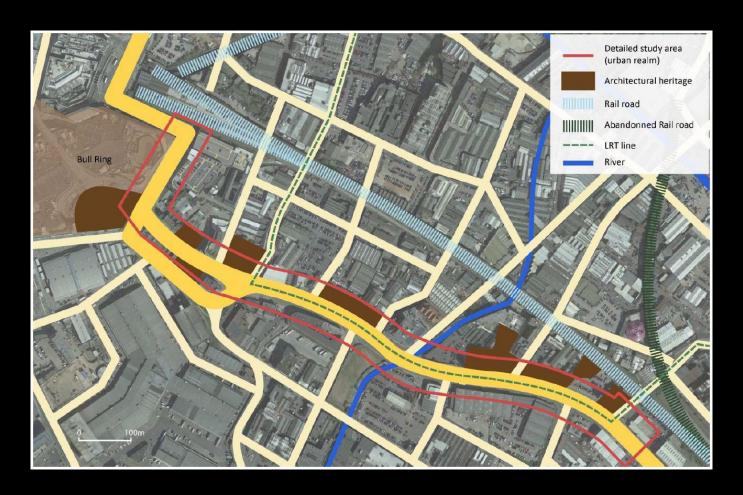


# Projects to reconnect & enhance



Eastside Park – example of delivered scheme

# Projects to reconnect & enhance



Future - Metro Digbeth High Street Boulevard Project

### Planning Applications

#### **Arboricultural Officer**

TPO | conservation areas | existing mature trees

#### City Designer

major developments – seeks long-term gains

#### **Developer Contributions**

enables off-site provision / gains

negotiate | balance | seek protection, replacement & gains

## **Next Steps**

- Put in place Birmingham Design Guide along with succinct and clear practice notes
- Birmingham Design & Conservation Review Panel
- Multi-disciplinary working

# Richard Cowell Assistant Director | Development Birmingham City Council



