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ASDA SUBMITS GASWORKS SITE PLANS

Barnet Council has registered ASDA's planning application for the long-proposed mixed-use regeneration development on the former gas works site off Albert Road, New Barnet. The proposals will create 400 new jobs and will help to meet borough housing requirements.

ASDA originally submitted their planning application in September but Barnet officers requested further information on highways. Subsequently, ASDA has been working closely with TFL and Barnet Council to refine a scheme that will provide infrastructure improvements to ease congestion and benefit the area.

Tom McGarry, ASDA property communications manager, said:

"We are pleased that the application has finally been registered and hope the Council will make a decision on the proposals by June. Our scheme is in line with policy objectives and will regenerate a brownfield site. The demolition of the buildings, widely agreed to have been an eyesore, has already been delivered. Our proposals will provide employment and supermarket choice in New Barnet. ASDA's quality produce at low prices are appreciated during these tough economic times."

The site comprises of six acres and the proposals include:

- An ASDA supermarket with 3,906 m² (42,040 ft²) of retail sales floorspace, creating 400 new full and part-time jobs.
- Additional retail uses, comprising 1,890 sq metres of ground floorspace to be provided to the south of the store. Following discussions with JCROSS we have ensured that school buses can drop-off and pick-up at the end of the site, providing safe pedestrian access to the school."
- 211 residential units, comprising of 1,2 and 3 bedroom apartments which will help meet forecast housing needs as stated in borough policy documents.
- £1.6 million of improvements to the transport network. This will help to address traffic issues and investment in pedestrian, cycle, bus, and highway infrastructure.
- Highways and environment improvements to Albert Road, and the creation of a pedestrian friendly environment on the frontage to Victoria Recreation Ground.

The ASDA proposals have been the subject of extensive public consultation. Tom McGarry thanked local residents that attended the public exhibition in June 2008, stating that:

"Over 1,000 people attended and we received a lot of positive feedback. I am receiving a number of emails and calls about the jobs that ASDA will create."

Ends



Further information:

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