Demand for housing in Stafford is high as the population is growing, the number of single person households is increasing, people are living longer and more people are moving to the Borough from adjoining areas. The Council has therefore been considering how they can provide enough homes for the future and ensure the prosperity and quality of life within the Borough.

Stafford Borough Council has recently published its final version of The Plan for Stafford Borough before it is examined by an independent Inspector. The Plan identifies a need to provide 7,200 new homes in the town of Stafford itself by 2031, and envisages the creation of new communities with supporting infrastructure such as health centres and schools at key Strategic Development Locations. Land north of Stafford has been identified as one of these locations for some time now and is the subject of this consultation.

Akzo Nobel and Maximus, who control the land to the north of Stafford identified as a Strategic Development Location, would like to involve local people to shape their early ideas for development in this area. The intention is to take a comprehensive and sustainable approach to planning for the future through the production of a masterplan which will help guide the development of the different parts of the site. Given the size of the area involved, it is likely that different parts will come forward for development at different times. One part of the area (which is in a different ownership) already has outline planning permission and consultation on the detailed design may happen in the near future.

How do I find out more?
You are invited to visit an exhibition where members of the project team will also be present to listen to any views and suggestions you may have, learn about local issues and concerns, and answer any questions.

Friday 11th January 2013 4.45pm – 8.00pm and Saturday 12th January 2013 10.00am – 4.00pm At Sir Graham Balfour School, North Avenue, Stafford, ST16 1NR
And
Friday 18th January 10.00am – 5.00pm and Saturday 19th January 10.00am – 4.00pm At The Guildhall Shopping Centre, Market Square, Stafford, ST16 2BB

There is a special project website that will be launched on 28th December. This will contain much of the same information as will be available at the exhibition and is ideal for those unable to come along. The web address is www.northstafford.co.uk

How can I make my views known?
You can make your views known on our initial ideas, give us your alternative suggestions, and let us know about any issues you are aware of in relation to the site at the exhibition, through the website or by using the FREEPOST reply paid card attached to this leaflet.
Your opinions are important

Your comments are important to us and form part of the public consultation process for the proposals.

What will happen to the comments received?

All thoughts, suggestions and issues received as part of this consultation will be carefully read and considered and used to help shape proposals for these sites.

Akzo Nobel and Maximus see this as the start of an ongoing process which develops strong and positive links with local people. If you would like to be involved as part of a focus group to help respond to issues that may be raised through this consultation or as a result of any technical / specialists reports, then please write to us separately at the address on the attached reply paid comments form, enclosing your contact details, and explaining whether you would be seeking to represent a particular organisation or as an individual.

A Consultation Report will be produced as part of any subsequent planning application. This Report will provide feedback to everyone who has been involved in the process, identifying the key issues raised, how they have been considered and how they have shaped the development. Where this has not been possible this will also be made clear.

When will I be consulted again?

When a planning application is submitted for any part of the site, Stafford Borough Council will consult with local people before making a decision on the application.

Any information provided will only be used for Beaconside consultation purposes and we do not share personal information with third parties.

Thank you for your time in looking at our ideas, and we look forward to meeting you at the exhibition, receiving your comments on the attached form or through the website.