Southport Planning Support - Free Pre-application Advice

The attached plan shows the designated free-pre app area (red line) and a 'buffer' (blue line) introduced to support the economic recovery of Southport following recent tragic events.

The red line includes the key areas for economic and tourist related development in Southport based on the Sefton Local Plan. Within this area, prospective developers will be able to benefit from free pre-application advice for **development which will make a positive contribution to the economic function and visitor experience of the area including:**

- Hotels and guest houses
- Arts and cultural uses
- New and improved visitor attractions
- Leisure facilities
- Education uses
- Uses which secure a sustainable future for vacant or 'at risk' heritage assets
- Uses that will secure a sustainable future for vacant premises on Lord Street
- Residential uses that will secure a sustainable future for vacant space above shops in Lord Street.

In addition, a 300m 'edge of centre' buffer has been introduced, represented with a blue line. Within the buffer area, pre-application advice may be provided for free (subject to agreement with the Service Manager), where it can be demonstrated that a development will make a positive contribution to the economic function and visitor experience of the area for developments relating to:

- Hotels and guest houses
- Arts and cultural uses
- New and improved visitor attractions
- Leisure facilities

Beyond the 300m buffer, there will be no free pre-application advice unless it can be demonstrated that the proposal would offer significant support towards the economic function of the Town Centre. This will also need to be agreed with the Service Manager.

