London Boroughs are required to update their Unitary Development Plans on a regular basis to ensure planning policy is up to date. The current adopted UDP for Southwark is now out of date particularly in relation to Bankside, an area that has seen dramatic change since 1995. Southwark has started the process of reviewing its current Development Plan.
The key policies contained within the current plan that relate to the area come under a number of different headings:

**Regeneration:** The Council wishes to stimulate and direct investment to Bankside. Planning permissions will generally be granted for proposals that generate employment, improve the environment, meet the needs of local residents and bring vacant land and buildings into use.

**Community Need:** The changes in the area have increased the pressure on the existing residential community. The Council is keen to safeguard and enhance the residential community and to secure the provision of community facilities and services. The UDP also seeks to protect public open space, by restricting development or changes that would see a net loss of space. The plan also looks to encourage new open space and associated facilities that would enhance enjoyment of the existing spaces. The current plan sets out a framework for protecting existing retail provision with limited small-scale expansion.

**Environment:** The current UDP states that the council wishes to create attractive, well-designed buildings, squares and other urban spaces and to ensure the satisfactory functioning and accessibility of the urban environment to everyone. Particular attention is given in the plan to the riverside location; the Council seeks to protect and enhance views along the riverside and to encourage public access. The council is keen to see the highest standard of design and landscape to improve the river frontage.

**Arts and Culture:** The UDP contains policies that are supportive to the provision of new art, cultural entertainment and visitor facilities in the area.

**Employment:** The council is keen to preserve the range of job opportunities for local people as well as new developments that will generate increased employment.

**Transport:** The existing UDP aims at promoting the use of public transport as an alternative to the private car, in accordance with the principle of sustainable development. Particular attention is given to the improvement of the pedestrian network with enhanced safety and accessibility. The Council also supports the use of cycling and river transport.

The existing UDP has provided the framework for the development of the Urban Study. Many of the policies contained in the plan are relevant today but need to be updated to reflect the recent and future in the area. It is expected that the Study will make a positive contribution to the Council’s review of its existing plan. The formulation of the options and proposals contained in the Study have been based on consultation with key stakeholders in the context of the changes that have occurred in Bankside since the current UDP was adopted. It is evident that there is a strong desire within the area to create an agreed framework to inform the future of Bankside and this Study to aspires to realise that ambition.
Bankside Urban Study
Source Documents

Bankside Regeneration
1998
London Borough of Southwark

The Borough at London Bridge - An Urban Study
Nov 1999
English Heritage / Kim Wilkie Associates

Bankside Economic Study
Jan 1995
Martin Caldwell Associates

Bankside Resident’s Forum Development Brief
May 2000

Cathedral Ward Profile
May 2000
Austen Cutten, Social Inclusion, Community Development and Advice Unit

Bankside Regeneration Study
Oct 1993
Llewelyn - Davies Architects and Masterplanners

Bankside Street Improvement Programme
Aug 1997
Southwark Council / Cross River Partnership

Bankside Transport Study
Nov 1995
Urban Initiatives

London South Central Connections
May 2000
Cross River Partnership

Transport and Access Programme
May 2000
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Essence Local Agenda 21
2000
Sustainable Southwark Partnership

Bankside Means Business
1999
Cross River Partnership / Southwark Regeneration

Tate Modern Bankside Lands Masterplan
June 2000
Drivers Jonas

SRB Bid Document
Sept 1996
Cross River Partnership / London Borough of Southwark

Creating New Hotels for London
1995
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