

REPORT FOR DECISION

MEETING: PLANNING CONTROL COMMITTEE
DATE: 24 AUGUST 2010
SUBJECT: PLANNING DECISION MAKING PROTOCOL
REPORT FROM: THE COUNCIL SOLICITOR
CONTACT OFFICER: ALEX STRICKLAND

TYPE OF DECISION: COUNCIL

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/STATUS: This paper is within the public domain

SUMMARY: The report introduces the Protocol on Decision Making for Planning Committee Members

OPTIONS & RECOMMENDED OPTION

Option 1 is recommended.

(1) The Committee hereby resolves to adopt the Protocol as appended hereto.

(2) The Committee may decline to adopt the Protocol.

(3) The Committee may resolve to adopt the Protocol with amendments (to be specified).

IMPLICATIONS:

Corporate Aims/Policy Framework: Do the proposals accord with the Policy Framework? N/A

Financial Implications and Risk Considerations: Director of Finance and E-Government to advise regarding risk management N/A

Statement by Director of Finance and E-Government: N/A

Equality/Diversity implications: N/A

Considered by Monitoring Officer: The adoption of the protocol is designed to secure high standards of decision making and thereby protect the interests of the Council in the event that any decisions are subjected to legal challenge.

Are there any legal implications? See Monitoring Officer Comment above

Staffing/ICT/Property: N/A

Wards Affected: All

Scrutiny Interest: N/A

TRACKING/PROCESS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Chief Executive/ Management Board	Executive Member/Chair	Ward Members	Partners
Scrutiny Commission	Executive	Committee	Council

1. BACKGROUND.

- 1.1 The Decision Making Protocol is designed to ensure the highest standards of probity in the decision making process.
- 1.2 Members will already be aware of their general obligations under the Members Code of Conduct and the 'Probity in Planning Code of Conduct' that forms part of the Council's constitution.

2. TRAINING SESSION.

- 2.1 At the recent training session for members on 22nd June 2010 reference was made to the fact that a new Decision Making Protocol would be introduced.

3. PROTOCOL.

- 3.1 The Decision Making Protocol was discussed informally with members at the Planning Briefing on 20th July and comments made at that session have resulted in two small amendments to the previous draft namely (1) deletion of a reference to the Local Area Partnership at paragraph 5.1 and (2) inclusion of Appendix 1 to the Probity in Planning Code of Conduct (extracted from the Constitution) dealing with the issue of site visits.

4. ADOPTION OF PROTOCOL.

4.1 Members are asked to resolve to adopt the Protocol as appended hereto in accordance with Option 1.

List of Background Papers:- None

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