



COUNCIL – 22ND NOVEMBER 2016

SUBJECT: PLANNING COMMITTEE SITE VISITS

REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES AND SECTION 151

- 1.1 The report was considered by the Planning Committee on the 9th November 2016.
- 1.2 Changes to the Site Visit procedures were agreed at Planning Committee on the 4th November 2015 and reported to Council on the 17th November 2015 which agreed them subject to a six month review following the date of implementation.
- That review period expired in September 2016 and an all Member consultation on the new procedures commenced in July 2016.
- 1.3 The Planning Committee noted the comments arising from the consultation process and agreed that there could be occasions when it would be impractical to visit all sites in one day, and there should be some flexibility in the procedure to allow another day to be used providing it was prior to the relevant Planning Committee meeting.
- 1.4 Members noted the improvements made in the in the last two quarters of 2015/16 with regard to the percentage of applications determined within the statutory timescales and that these were continuing to be made in the first quarter of 2016/17.
- 1.5 Having fully considered the Officer's report it was moved and seconded that the recommendation contained therein be approved and by show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RECOMMENDED to Council that the relevant changes to the Council's Constitution relating to Planning Site Visits be made permanent and the Council's Monitoring Officer be authorised to make the following amendment:

1. Where it is impractical to undertake all approved site visits on the Monday before the Planning Committee, the visit/s may take place on any day subject to the visit/s taking place before the Planning Committee to which the application/s is/are being reported.
- 1.4 Members are invited to consider the report and the above recommendation.

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Appendices:

Appendix 1 Planning Committee Report – 9th November 2016 - Agenda No. 17