

## **PLANNING AND PUBLIC PROTECTION**

### **DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT AND COMPLIANCE SECTION SCHEME OF DELEGATION**

The delegation scheme enables Officers within the Development Management & Planning Compliance Section of the Service to deal with certain defined determinations without authorisation from Members.

The purpose of having such a Scheme of Delegation is to ensure an efficient, customer focussed approach whilst maintaining the necessary democratic checks and balances which Planning Committee provides.

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#### **Part 1 – Officer Level Decisions**

#### **Part 2 – Committee Level Decisions**

### **1. PART 1 – OFFICER LEVEL DECISIONS**

**1.1. The scheme will allow the Head of Planning and Public Protection, Development Management & Planning Compliance Manager and any Officer within the Development Management & Planning Compliance Section so authorised by them to determine the following types of applications, prior determinations, notifications, approval of conditions, ancillary decisions, amendments and compliance case under the relevant Planning legislation:**

#### **1.2. Planning or other Applications**

- 1.2.1. All types of planning or other applications on which Officers are recommending approval where 3 or less individual written objections have been received from different neighbours/residential properties raising material planning objections.
- 1.2.2. All types of planning or other application on which Officers are recommending refusal.
- 1.2.3. All types of prior determinations, neighbouring authority notifications, the need for Environmental Impact Assessments (screening and scoping opinions) and other notifications.

### **1.3. Compliance Issues**

- 1.3.1. Compliance cases which have been investigated by a Planning Compliance Officer and require no further action.
- 1.3.2. Compliance cases which require the serving of a planning related enforcement notice.\*
- 1.3.3. Legal action in association with breaches of Notices served under the provisions contained in paragraph 1.3.2 above. Legal action will be taken only if agreed by the relevant Legal Officer.

### **1.4. Miscellaneous**

- 1.4.1. Decide the type of planning appeal, subject to consultation with the Local Ward Member(s), and undertake to defend the Council's position in accordance with the Protocol for Member Involvement in Planning Appeals.
- 1.4.2. To submit observations on behalf of the Council on external consultations or draft documents.
- 1.4.3. Minor amendments to the terms of a Section 106 legal agreement where the substance of the authorised terms has not significantly altered, subject to informal consultation with the Local Ward Member(s).
- 1.4.4. Minor amendments to the wording of planning conditions / notes to applicants on applications approved at Planning Committee, including minor amendments to Committee authorised enforcement notices where the substance of the suggested condition / note to applicant / notice has not significantly altered, subject to informal consultation with the Local Ward Member(s).
- 1.4.5. To submit observations on behalf of the Council on the following pre-application stages of major renewable energy infrastructure projects:
  - Responding to the Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC's) environmental impact assessment (EIA) scoping opinion consultation
  - Responding to the developer's consultation on the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)
  - Responding to the IPC's consultation on the adequacy of the developer's pre-application consultation
- 1.4.6. To make and serve Tree Preservation Order Notices and deal with applications for works to trees having a Preservation Order or works to Trees in Conservation Areas.

## 2. PART 2 – COMMITTEE LEVEL DECISIONS

### 2.1. The following sets out the types of applications which will need to be reported to Planning Committee for formal determination and as such do not fall within Part 1 of this scheme:-

- 2.1.1. All types of planning or other applications on which Officers are recommending approval where 4 or more individual written objections have been received from different neighbours/residential properties raising material planning objections.
- 2.1.2. All types of planning or other applications on which Officers are recommending approval where a relevant material planning objection has been received from a City/Town/Community Council or body required to be consulted under the provisions of The Town and Country Planning (General Development) Procedure Order.
- 2.1.3. All applications on which Officers are recommending approval which represent a significant departure from the adopted policies and guidance of the Development Plan.
- 2.1.4. Any application not already determined under Part 1 above which the Ward Member, for the Ward in which the application is located, has submitted a written request based on valid planning grounds that application be heard at Planning Committee. The request should be made as soon as possible by the Ward Member to the Head of Planning and Public Protection and/or the Development Management & Planning Compliance Manager.
- 2.1.5. Any application submitted by, on behalf of, or on land in the ownership of:
  - A County Councillor,
  - Member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT)
  - Member of staff of Planning and Public Protection
  - A close relative of any of the above
- 2.1.6. Any application to remove or vary a planning condition which has been specifically imposed by Members at Planning Committee.
- 2.1.7. Any application to vary or modify any fundamental terms of a Section 106 legal agreement which is linked to a planning permission given at Planning Committee.
- 2.1.8. Any other application, compliance case or determination which the Head of Service or Development Management & Planning Compliance Manager considers necessary to report to Planning Committee due to interest or circumstance.
- 2.1.9. Any formal pre-application (Section 42) consultation on Infrastructure

Planning Commission (IPC) schemes along with the formal application made to the IPC (Local Impact Report) and any other formal representations at examination stage.

- 2.1.10. Any application which has been determined contrary to Officer recommendation at Planning Committee previously but which, in the opinion of the Head of Planning and Public Protection in consultation with the Monitoring Officer, could represent one of the following:
  - a) The decision at Planning Committee represents a significant departure from the adopted Development Plan.
  - b) The decision at Planning Committee represents a significant risk of costs awarded against the Council at any subsequent planning appeal, legal challenge, possible Welsh Government call-in or Ombudsman investigation.
- 2.1.11. The returning report will, in all circumstances, be reported back to the next available Planning Committee in order to protect the interests of the Council and will contain additional information pertaining to the two areas a) and/or b) above.

**FOR CLARITY REGARDING THE DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT & PLANNING COMPLIANCE SCHEME OF DELEGATION:**

For the purposes of this scheme all planning applications will include those made by or on behalf of the Council.

Letters of representation will only be taken into account for the purposes of defining whether an application falls within Part 1 or Part 2 of the Scheme of Delegation if they are signed and addressed.

Anonymous letters of representation will not be taken into account for the purposes of defining whether an application falls within Part 1 or Part 2 of the Scheme of Delegation.

Petitions containing names/signatures only will be counted as one single representation for the purposes of defining whether an application falls within Part 1 or Part 2 of the Scheme of Delegation.

Petitions containing clearly written names and signatures along with associated addresses will be defined for the purposes of whether an application falls within Part 1 or Part 2 of the Scheme of Delegation as if each name was a separate representation.

All electronic submissions will only be taken into account for the purposes of defining whether an application falls within Part 1 or Part 2 of the Scheme of Delegation if they contain an individuals name and associated address.

**“Close relative”** is defined as spouses/partners, parents, children, brothers and sisters.

**“Significant Departure”** is defined as any proposal which, if approved or refused, would harm the fundamental intentions of a Policy in the adopted Local Development Plan.

**For “Bodies required to be consulted under Procedure Order” please refer to latest Procedure Order**

\*For the purposes of this scheme “Any Planning Related Enforcement Notice” includes Stop Notices, Temporary Stop Notices, Injunctions, Enforcement Notices, Listed Building Enforcement Notices, Urgent Works Notices, Repairs Notices, Discontinuance Notices (Adverts), S215 Untidy Land Notices, Breach of Condition Notice. Any relevant Requisition for Information Notice and any Rights of Entry Notice

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