

4TH MARCH 2015

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF PLANNING AND REGENERATION

SCHEME OF DELEGATION TO THE HEAD OF PLANNING AND REGENERATION

Cabinet Holder Cllr Richard Chesterton
Responsible Officer Professional Services Manager

Reason for Report: To update the current scheme of delegation to the Head of Planning and Regeneration in light of the restructuring of the Planning Service, specifically the deletion of the post of Professional Services Manager from 1st April 2015.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the scheme of delegation to the Head of Planning and Regeneration be amended as follows from 1st April 2015:

In the case of all Applications:

1. **In the opinion of the Head of Planning or the Area Planning Officer, the application is of a significant, controversial or sensitive nature.**

Relationship to Corporate Plan: Planning decision making is relevant to key objectives within the Corporate Plan.

Financial Implications: None.

Legal Implications: Updating and clarification of authority in the manner suggested will reduce the risk of legal challenge based on the decision making process.

Risk Assessment: Clarification of delegated authority through the changes recommended will reduce risk of challenge.

Consultation carried out with: None.

1.0 **INTRODUCTION.**

1.1 The current scheme of delegation to the Head of Planning and Regeneration was agreed by Planning Committee at the meeting of 2nd April 2003, was amended at later meetings and most recently in April 2014. It sets out the powers of the Local Planning Authority that are delegated to the Head of Planning and Regeneration. These powers can be exercised by the postholder and are authorised by the Planning Committee. A copy of the current scheme of delegation is attached at **Appendix 1** to this report.

1.2 Changes are proposed to the scheme of delegation are as a result of the restructure of the Development Management part of the Planning Service. Specifically, the post of Professional Services Manager is removed from 1st

April 2015. This requires a minor change to the scheme where it covers the referral of applications to Planning Committee.

2.0 THE PROPOSED CHANGE.

2.1 The scheme of delegation currently includes the following provision:

In the case of all Applications:

1. *In the opinion of the Head of Planning or the Professional Services Manager, the application is of a significant, controversial or sensitive nature.*

With the removal of the Professional Services Manager post, the following amendment is proposed:

In the case of all Applications:

2. *In the opinion of the Head of Planning or the Area Planning Officer, the application is of a significant, controversial or sensitive nature.*

2.2 Ward Members, the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of Planning Committee may still require committee consideration of an application having given clear planning reasons. Still remains unchanged from the current scheme of delegation.

Contact for any more information	Professional Services Manager Mrs Jenny Clifford 01884 234346
Background Papers	Scheme of delegation to the Head of Planning and Regeneration Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations Planning Committee 2nd April 2014
File Reference	None.
Circulation of the Report	Cllr Richard Chesterton. Members of Planning Committee