

Revised version recommended by officers

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL SCHEME OF DELEGATION

The Director of Development (and any officers designated by that officer) is authorized to: -

- determine any planning application and discharge conditions under delegated powers (including tree/hedgerow work applications);
- deal with enforcement complaints (including deciding on the expediency of taking/not taking action and issuing enforcement notices, including listed building enforcement notices and taking any further action, including prosecution, required to secure compliance with a decision of the council);
- initiate prosecution proceedings for breaches of the Planning and Listed Buildings Acts in relation to unauthorised works to listed buildings and /or unauthorised demolition of buildings in conservation areas
- deal with all types of appeal and their format.
- where an appeal has been lodged against a planning decision and Counsel advises that specific refusal reasons are unreasonable and/or likely to undermine or weaken the Council's case and time constraints prevent the matter being brought back to committee, officers, in consultation with the committee Chairman are authorised to inform the appellant and the Planning Inspectorate that the Council will not seek to defend such reason(s) at appeal;
- make and confirm Tree Preservation Orders; Tree Replacement Notices and serve notices requiring action in relation to dangerous trees, and to initiate any associated direct action required to deal with dangerous trees; deciding whether to prosecute for breaches of the Planning Acts in relation to tree and hedgerow matters
- determining any applications made under the High Hedges provisions of the anti-social behaviour legislation; including any necessary enforcement action
- deal with all other decisions and correspondence required under any relevant local government, social, planning, listed building, conservation, building and environmental and any other relevant legislation;
- serve Urgent Works Notices in relation to listed buildings and taking further action, including direct action and/or prosecution where such notices are not complied with;

- make representations on behalf of the council in relation to Government consultations on proposed changes to legislation and national guidance;
- make representations on behalf of the council in relation to consultations from other local planning authorities on planning applications;
- determine the requirements for, and amend when necessary the local validation list for planning applications;
- make and confirm Article 4 directions restricting or removing permitted development rights;
- nominate officers to represent the council on forums and working parties;
- authorise officers to enter land and buildings in the course of their duties;
- enter into, modify or discharge planning or legal agreements securing controls over development (e.g. Section 106 of the Town & Country Planning Act);
- make changes to conditions approved at committee (in the light of changing circumstances between the meeting and the issue of the decision) provided this is in line with the principles of the committee's decision. Any such changes will be reported back to a subsequent committee for member's information.
- set charges for copying, planning history searches, high hedge applications and discretionary fees for Local Land Charges;
- refuse applications following a resolution to grant permission or consent if the required legal agreements are not completed by the applicant within the timeframe set out in the officer's report;
- institute and defend judicial reviews and statutory challenges in consultation with the head of legal services.

This is provided that none of the following conditions apply.

Reference to Committee by Wiltshire Council Division Member

- a. Division Members can requests in writing/email that a planning application within **their** Division proceed to determination by way of an area committee. (Any request must be received within 21 days of the circulation of the weekly list of 'applications received' in which it appears, and set out the material planning consideration(s) which warrant the application going before committee). Officers will confirm what action is being taken following receipt of the request.
- b. It is perfectly acceptable for councillors to nominate a substitute(s) to undertake their planning responsibilities, including application 'call in', if

they have a conflict of interest or during periods of absence such as holidays or illness.

- c. Applications for tree work, prior approvals, Certificates of Lawfulness; notifications and variations/discharge of legal agreements - where the latter would bring them in line with a planning decision already made by the council, will not be eligible for call-in and will be dealt with under delegated powers.
- d. If private applications are made by an elected member or a senior officer of the council or their close relations, where representations objecting to the application have been received, permission can only be given by committee.

The following applications shall be dealt with by the Strategic Planning Committee:

- Large-scale major developments (defined by CLG as those of 200 houses or more or 10,000 square metres of non-residential floor space) which, by their nature (e.g. scale, location etc.) have wider strategic implications and raise issues of more than local importance. This will include applications of a similar nature by Wiltshire Council to develop any land of Wiltshire Council, or for development of any land by Wiltshire Council or by Wiltshire Council jointly with any other person (Regulation 3 applications);
- Planning applications for mineral extraction or waste disposal, other than small scale works which are ancillary to an existing mineral working or waste disposal facility;
- Applications, which if approved, would represent a significant departure from the policies of the statutory development plan, where they are recommended for approval;
- Applications called in by a Division Member that cross the boundary of two area committees;
- Any application that the Director of Development deems raises issues that should be considered by the Strategic Planning Committee.

There will be occasions where it would be possible to deal with certain applications under delegated powers but where the Director of Development considers it inappropriate to do so, having considered any public representation and consultee responses. In these cases the applications will be determined by an appropriate planning committee.

Definitions

Planning application means any application submitted to the council for determination and included within the Governments' PS1 and PS2 returns.

Large scale major development means any application for 200 or more houses; residential development of 4ha or more or other development of more than 10,000 square metres or more than 2 ha, as defined by the Government in the PS1/2 return.

Householder development and the other descriptions of development referred to above shall have the meaning ascribed to them in the Government's PS1/2 return.

Enforcement notices includes all other formal notices under the Planning Acts used to investigate and remedy alleged breaches of planning control or improve the appearance of an area, including Breach of condition notices and Section 215 notices.

A private application is one which has no connection with a member or officer's council duties. For example, if an officer submitted a Regulation 3 application on behalf of Wiltshire Council it would not be a private application.

A 'senior officer' within the Development Service will mean a Team Leader, Area Development Manager or the Service Director. In respect of other council services, a 'senior officer' will mean any Service Director, Corporate Director or the Chief Executive.

A close relation is defined as spouse, partner, sibling, parent or offspring.

A significant Regulation 3 application means any application for new development or an infrastructure project or an alteration of an existing development or infrastructure project where the site area exceeds 0.5 hectares or the net increase in floor area would exceed 500sq m. Development of a temporary nature such as temporary classrooms is specifically excluded.

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