

Meeting of the Council - 25th February, 2008

Report of the Development Control Committee

Members' Planning Code Of Good Practice

Purpose of Report

1. To consider amendments to the Members' Planning Code of Good Practice

Background

2. At its meeting on the 24th July 2006 the Council approved a recommendation of the Standards Committee with regard to the adoption of the Members' Planning Code of Good Practice.
3. As a result of the new Members' Code of Conduct approved in July 2007 a number of consequential amendments to the Planning Code of Good Practice are required. In addition a number of changes have been recommended by officers by way of clarification or to emphasise the importance of a particular issue.
4. The draft amendments to the Planning Code of Good Practice have been considered by the Standards Committee at its meeting on the 14th January 2008 and the Development Control Committee at its meeting on the 4th February 2008 and both committees recommend its approval by the Council.
5. In addition to the amendments suggested by officers, the Development Control Committee also refined the arrangements for public speaking at meetings of the Committee. The arrangements now reflect existing custom and practice whereby an applicant (or their agent) may speak in support of their application even if no objector or ward member wishes to address the Committee.
6. The revised draft Planning Code of Good Practice is attached at Appendix 1 and is recommended for approval by the Council.

Finance

7. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Law

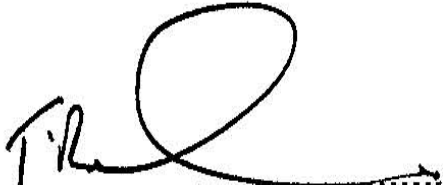
8. Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 enables the Council to do any thing which is calculated to facilitate or is conducive or incidental to the discharge of the Council's functions as local planning authority.
9. The Members' Planning Code of Good Practice is included in the Constitution.

Equality Impact

10. The Members' Planning Code of Good Practice complies fully with the Council's policies with regard to equality and diversity and does not have any direct implications for children and young people within the borough.

Recommendation

11. That the revised Members' Planning Code of Good Practice be approved.



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Chairman of the Development Control Committee.

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List of Background Papers

1. Members' Code of Conduct