

## Corporate Policy & Resources Committee Matters Arising Schedule

### Purpose:

To consider progress on the matters arising from previous Corporate Policy & Resources Committee meetings.

**Recommendation:** That members note progress on the matters arising and request corrective action if necessary.

### Matters arising Schedule

Title	Action Required	Comments	Due Date	Allocated To
<b>Fees and Charges</b>	Minute extract Councillor Shore requested that a further review be presented to the Committee in six month. Although regular quarterly monitoring took place and was reported to the Committee, Cllr Shore requested an assessment of impact, not just financial figures.	<b>Monitoring of fees and charges including an assessment of the impact will be integrated into the Quarter 2 Budget Monitoring</b>	30/11/2016	Tracey Bircumshaw
<b>Budget Monitoring - elections</b>	Minute extract from 27 October An apparent discrepancy in figures quoted for elections costs was raised. The Director of Resources resolved to clarify this to Members in due course.	<b>Minute extract The Director of Resources clarified the discrepancy in the elections figures quoted in the MTFP. The Supplies and Sundries figure covered Stationery costs and the Third Party Payments was for additional staffing costs required during elections.</b>	10/11/2015	Ian Knowles

**Planning  
Committee Policy**

Consideration be given at the Chair's briefing as to the Constitutional requirements of Planning Policy being under the remit of the Prosperous Communities Committee

**It appears that this matter is about procedural issues for dealing with planning applications at Planning Committee and any subsequent appeals and not about planning policy as expressed in local plans. It should therefore lie within the remit of the Planning Committee.**

07/12/2015 Mark Sturgess

**The procedural matters which appear to be at issue are around the way planning appeals are handled where Planning Committee do not accept the officer's recommendation to grant planning permission and refuse the application. This has been subject to debate with Planning Committee members and a protocol has been devised to deal with these circumstances.**

**In accordance with the provisions of the protocol officers offer full support to members in defending appeals where the decision of the committee is contrary to the officer recommendation to grant permission. This support usually involves advising on the most "defendable" way of presenting a case at an appeal and seeking to avoid an award of costs where that decision is judged to be "unreasonable" by an inspector. Officers are bound by a Royal Town Planning Institute code of conduct which means that they should always express their professional opinion on planning matters. Often an appeal is better defended by a member (especially the local member) who can speak passionately and with conviction about the reasons for refusal.**

**Through the improvement work being undertaken with the development management service it is clear that other local planning authorities adopt this approach. However and also as part of this improvement work the system for dealing with member decisions, where that decision is contrary to officer advice, will be reviewed.**