

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

Status	Title	Action Required	Comments	Due Date	Allocated To
Black	Member Training	Minute extract from 10/11/15 Various training methods were proposed and certification required, whilst acknowledging that this was not mandatory, but records would be kept on file for audit purposes. The Information Governance and Systems Development Officer would devise appropriate systems of learning and certification.	As the policy has been adopted with the applicability to members removed then it is not feasible to develop training for members. It is proposed that we revisit the training requirement when the policy has been amended to include member devices	17/12/2015	Steve Anderson
	Progress & Delivery - Services	The next P&D Services report to contain a breakdown of complaints by Service area.		11/02/2016	Mark Sturgess

**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 officers' 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.

Green

**Budget
Monitoring -
elections**

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.

10/11/2015

Ian
Knowles