

Subject: Delegation of decisions to the Executive Director of Regulatory Services between 15th April to 3rd June 2008

Status: For Publication

Report to: Development Control Committee

Date: 15th April 2008

Report of: Executive Director of Regulatory Services

Portfolio

Holder: Regenerating and Promoting Rossendale

Key Decision: Yes / No

Forward Plan

General Exception

Special Urgency

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 Under the current scheme of delegation certain matters cannot be decided by the Executive Director of Regulatory Services. Due to the absence of meetings between the 15th April 2008 and the 3rd June 2008 due to the election period, it is proposed that the Development Control Committee delegates the decision making on such matters to the Executive Director of Regulatory Services with the Chair and Opposition Group Spokespersons, in order to maintain targets for determining planning applications and meet required customer service standards.

2. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

2.1 The matters discussed in this report impact directly on the following corporate priorities and associated corporate objective/s.

- Delivering Quality Services to Customers (Customers, Improvement)
- Delivering Regeneration across the Borough (Economy, Housing)
- Well Managed Council (Improvement, Community Network)

3. RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no specific risk issues for members to consider arising from this report.

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 Under the current scheme of delegation the following matters cannot be decided by the Executive Director of Regulatory Services

- Major applications
- Applications with 3 or more objections and which are recommended for approval
- Confirmation of Tree preservation orders in cases which have received objections.

Due to the absence of meetings between the 15th April 2008 and the 3rd June 2008 due to the election period and in order to maintain the current Planning performance on determining minor (8 weeks) other (8 weeks) and major applications (13 weeks), it is necessary to request that the Development Control Committee delegates the decision making relating to the above matters to the Executive Director of Regulatory Services with the Chair and Opposition Group Spokespersons.

It is important that Rossendale maintains its improvement in its figures for the determination of planning applications and this is linked to maintaining our customer care standards .

Member call in of decisions would not be affected by the proposed arrangements .

COMMENTS FROM STATUTORY OFFICERS:

5. SECTION 151 OFFICER

5.1 The report will ensure that the Council maximizes the opportunity to receive grant monies.

6. MONITORING OFFICER

6.1 Report of the Monitoring Officer.

7. HEAD OF PEOPLE AND ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (ON BEHALF OF THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE)

7.1 No HR Implications.

8. CONCLUSION

8.1 That delegated decision is required in relation to the above matters to maintain improvement in target figures for the determination of planning applications, and is also linked to maintaining our customer care standards.

9. RECOMMENDATION(S)

9.1 That the Development Control Committee delegates the decision making relating to the above matters to the Executive Director of Regulatory Services with the Chair and Opposition Group Spokespersons for all applications / matters to be determined/ decided for the period 15th April 2008 to the 3rd June 2008 .

10. CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

10.1 Portfolio Holder and Opposition Group Spokespersons.

11. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Is an Equality Impact Assessment required No

Is an Equality Impact Assessment attached No

12. BIODIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Is a Biodiversity Impact Assessment required No

Is a Biodiversity Impact Assessment attached No

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No background papers