

**Subject:** Delegation of decisions to the Planning Manager between 29<sup>th</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> June 2010

**Status:** For Publication

**Report to:** Development Control Committee

**Date:** 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2010

**Report of:** Director of Business

**Portfolio**

**Holder:** Regeneration

**Key Decision:** 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 Planning Manager. Owing to the purdah period in the approach to the elections, it is proposed that the Development Control Committee delegates the decision making on such matters to the Planning Manager in consultation 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:-

- Delivering quality Services to our customers
- Delivering regeneration across the Borough

**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 Planning Manager:

- 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.

Owing to the purdah period in the approach to the elections 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 Planning Manager in consultation 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 maximises the opportunity to receive grant monies.

##### **6. MONITORING OFFICER**

- 6.1 Report of the Monitoring Officer.

##### **7. HEAD OF PEOPLE AND POLICY (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 Planning Manager in consultation with the Chair and Opposition Group Spokespersons for all applications/matters to be determined/decided for the period 29<sup>th</sup> March 2010 to the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2010 .

**10. CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT**

10.1 Portfolio Holder and Opposition Group Spokespersons.

**11. COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

Is a Community Impact Assessment required No

Is a Community 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