
Development Control Panel

Report of the meetings held on 19th December 2005
and 16th January 2006

Matters for Information

21. REVISED HIGHWAYS DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PROTOCOL

The Panel has noted that, with effect from January 2006, a revised protocol for processing development control applications will be adopted by the District Council's Transportation Team.

Under the new protocol, technical advice will only be provided on -

- ◆ applications for 2 to 6 dwellings;
- ◆ internal site layouts which impact on the safety of the public highway;
- ◆ strategic issues associated with large developments;
- ◆ transport issues to be negotiated under potential Section 106 Agreements; and
- ◆ strategic policy documents and design and development briefs.

In those circumstances where the Panel has highway concerns about a particular application, specialist consultancy advice may need to be obtained.

22. SUMMARY OF ENFORCEMENT ACTION FOR 2005

The Panel has noted the extent of enforcement activity undertaken by the Enforcement Team in the Planning Division during 2005 and has endorsed six key objectives identified for the service in 2006. Of the objectives to be progressed, the Panel has indicated their preference for priority to be given to the publication of an information leaflet and web pages to raise understanding of enforcement issues. Mindful of the decision to categorise failure to ensure compliance with planning conditions as maladministration by the local government Ombudsman, two objectives selected for achievement in 2006 relate to the implementation of a procedure for checking compliance with occupancy conditions and the undertaking of an exercise to assess, in percentage terms, compliance with planning conditions attached to new consents.

**23. PERFORMANCE MONITORING:
DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PROGRESS REPORT –
1ST JULY TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2005**

The Panel has received and noted a statistical report on the performance of the Development Control Section over the period 1st July to 30th September 2005.

24. DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

Over two meetings, the Panel has determined a total of 21 applications of which 10 were approved, 9 refused and 2 deferred.

The Panel deferred two applications at its December meeting to enable the respective applicants and Members to be apprised of the implications of Planning Policy Statement No. 7 in respect of new development in the countryside. These applications were subsequently refused at the January meeting.

Following support expressed for the proposal by local representatives, approval has been given to the erection of a single storey building to form a new GP surgery for Little Paxton. The surgery will be close to a number of other community facilities and will be accessible to pedestrians and the disabled. An existing car park will provide parking for the facility on a joint use basis.

P G Mitchell
Chairman