

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT POLICY ADVISORY GROUP

Meeting - 11 June 2015

Present: Mr Naylor (Chairman)
Mr D Dhillon, Mrs Gibbs and Mr Vincent

Also Present: Mr Hogan and Mr Sangster

Apologies for absence: Mrs Lowen-Cooper and Mr Samson

1. BRIEFING ON THE ROLE OF THE SUSTAINABILITY DEVELOPMENT PAG

Members received a PowerPoint presentation on the role of the PAG which focussed on the following areas of work:

- Building Control
- Planning Policy
- Infrastructure Projects

RESOLVED that the presentation be noted.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the PAG held on 17 March 2015 were received.

3. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

No reports from members were received.

4. CURRENT ISSUES

The Head of Sustainable Development, after explaining the purpose and effect of Article 4 Directions, advised members that an Article 4 Direction was already in force in relation to land at George Green which was currently being marketed.

5. REPORTS LIKELY TO LEAD TO THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER MAKING A DECISION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SCHEME OF DELEGATION TO CABINET MEMBERS

No reports.

6. REPORTS LIKELY TO LEAD THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER MAKING A RECOMMENDATION TO CABINET

(a) Update on Changes to Council Affordable Housing Procedures following changes made to Government Guidance

The PAG considered a report providing an update on recent changes made to the affordable housing national policy by central Government and outlining the implications of those changes on the Council's affordable housing policies and methods of collecting affordable housing contributions.

After noting the options and the corporate implications the PAG advised the Portfolio Holder to recommend the following:

1. That Cabinet notes the changes made to the National Planning Practice Guidance in relation to affordable housing schemes.
2. That when calculating floorspace in association with National Planning Practice Guidance the floorspace to be included in any gross internal measurement will include all built functional spaces forming part of the development, for example including basements, integral or attached garages and all detached buildings such as free standing garages or outbuildings.
3. That South Bucks District Council remove the requirement that when calculating floorspace in association with the National Planning Practice Guidance this will be measured taking external building measurements as this is now contrary to national guidance.
4. That Cabinet notes the revised approach to the methods of collecting financial contributions arising from planning obligations given the current National Planning Practice Guidance.
5. That Cabinet note the suggested approach to requests to vary existing planning obligations, including the potential payment of refunds of planning obligation funds already committed and that Cabinet delegate authority to determine if refunds of affordable housing contributions should be made on a case by case basis to the Head of Sustainable Development in consultation with the Head of Legal Services
6. That Cabinet agree to the drafting of a common planning application validation list for both Chiltern and South Bucks District Councils and authorise public consultation on the revised list once the draft has been agreed by the appropriate committees at each council.
7. That Cabinet notes the implications of the changes in national government guidance on the content of the Councils Affordable Housing SPD.

7. REPORTS FOR NOTING

None

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

9. EXEMPT INFORMATION

“That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 following item of business is not for publication to the press or public on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paras 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.”

10. MINUTES

The Part II minutes of the PAG held on 17 March 2015 were received.

11. PART II CURRENT ISSUES

None.

12. **PART II REPORTS LIKELY TO LEAD THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER MAKING A DECISION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SCHEME OF DELEGATION TO CABINET MEMBERS**

None.

13. **PART II REPORTS LIKELY TO LEAD THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER MAKING A RECOMMENDATION TO CABINET**

(a) HS2 Update

The PAG received and noted a report providing an update on issues relating to HS2.

14. **PART II REPORTS FOR NOTING**

None.

The meeting terminated at 7.05 pm