



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PANEL

9:30am to 10:20am

5 June 2013

Present: Councillors Stonard (chair), Carlo (vice chair), Gihawi, Grahame (substituting for Boswell), Bremner, Lubbock, Kendrick and Stammers

Apologies: Councillor Boswell (Grahame substituting)

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Stonard as chair for the ensuing civic year.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Carlo as vice chair for the ensuing civic year.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. MINUTES

RESOLVED to agree the minutes of the meeting held on 27 February 2013.

5. STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (SCI) 2013

The planning officer presented the report and together with the policy team leader (projects) and planner (policy) answered members' questions.

Discussion ensued in which the panel considered the process leading to the adoption of the plan, particularly the arrangements for public inquiry and consultation. One member commented that the explanatory table regarding material and non-material considerations (fig. 4 beneath paragraph 48) was useful and

should be made available in the public domain on the planning pages of the council's website.

A member said that the officer response in area 007 of annex 1 was not helpful. It was suggested that a table could be used to highlight any changes and provide a summary of the main differences.

A member suggested that a new paragraph could be added to the SCI to formalise a commitment to 'go further than the minimum required public engagement at all stages of consultation'. Another member said that such a commitment would be too binding in terms of resources, and that experience has shown that policies have been fine tuned and polished through the consultation process already in place. The planning officer explained that the pre-submission stage is the most suitable place to encourage stakeholder engagement.

Following discussion, members were happy that the process as it stands is as open and inclusive as it can be and is very effective at engaging stakeholders and encouraging input.

RESOLVED to:

- (1) recommend that cabinet approves the Statement of Community Involvement for adoption;
- (2) place the 'material and non-material considerations' table into the public domain on the planning website; and,
- (3) add the following sentence to the Statement of Community Involvement at the end of paragraph 22:

"At any consultation stage the council will comply with the minimum legal requirements for consultation."

CHAIR