

## **OFFICER DELEGATION SCHEME FOR DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT MATTERS**

### **PART A**

#### **Limitation on Delegated Authority**

1. The scheme of delegation relating to planning applications and related matters shall be limited solely to the items set out in Part B.
2. No delegated decision shall be made where the development in the opinion of the delegated officer is likely to be of a controversial nature, taking into account such factors as the scale and nature of the proposed development, the history and sensitivity of the site and the likely level of public interest.
3. No delegated decision shall be made which is materially in conflict with any of the Council's approved planning policies.
4. No Delegated decision on a planning application shall be made until the formal consultation period has expired.
5. No delegated decision on a planning application shall be made if a written request or e-mail to the Head of Development Management is received within 28 days of notification giving notice of an objection from;
  - a. A Ward Councillor in respect of an application within their Ward.
  - b. A Ward Councillor where an application in an adjacent Ward will have an impact on their Ward.
  - c. Any Ward Councillor, where with the agreement of the Chair, it can be demonstrated that the environmental planning effect on the Borough is significant.
  - d. The Clerk or Secretary of a Parish or Town Council in respect of an application within their Parish.
  - e. The Clerk or Secretary of a Town or Parish Council where an application in an adjacent Parish will have an impact on their Parish.
  - f. In the case of a 'Minor' or 'Other' application or a Tree Preservation Order, 5 or more members of the public from different households.
  - g. In the case of a Major application 20 or more members of the public from different households.

In all cases an objection must form a material planning consideration and an explicit request must be made that the application be referred to the Development Control Committee/Panel for determination.

Where a request to refer an application to Committee or Panel has been received from a Parish or Town Council, an undertaking to attend the meeting to address the Committee/Panel must be given.

Failure to attend a Committee or Panel, following an undertaking to so do, on two occasions within a 6 month Period will result in;

- a. The Parish or Town Council being barred from requesting an application be referred to Committee or Panel for a 3 month period from the date of the second incidence; and,
  - b. Any applications within that parish being determined in accordance with the Officer recommendation under delegated powers. This would also be for a concurrent 3 month period and would only take effect in cases where no other parties have lodged objections and requested the case be heard before a panel or committee as at point 1.
6. A party having requested that an application be referred to Committee or Panel on an objection based on the principles above, may withdraw the request for a referral to Committee or Panel if the scheme is amended to their satisfaction, or conditions agreed to address the issue, as long as notice of the withdrawal is received by the Head of Development Management prior to the publication of the agenda for the relevant meeting. In such cases, if no further objections triggering a referral to Committee/Panel exist, the application will be determined by Officer delegation in accordance with the Officer recommendation.
7. Planning applications submitted by or on behalf of the following shall be excluded from the delegation scheme and shall be determined by The Development Control Committee/Panel:
- Elected Members of the Council
  - Chief Executive/Corporate Director/Service Director/Head of Service
  - Any senior officer of the Council (Manager or above) having regular contact with the Planning Department
  - Close family members (parents, children, siblings and partners) of any of the above

## **PART B**

### **The Scope of Delegated Authority**

The Service Director - Growth, Economy and Culture and the Head of Development Management are authorised to determine the following matters subject to the limitations of Part A above:-

#### **1. Planning Applications and Related Matters**

- (a) All planning applications.
- (b) All applications for advertisement consent, Listed Building consent, Conservation Area consent, Hazardous Substance consent, and Tree Preservation Order consent.
- (c) All notifications in respect of planning related matters including Telecoms notifications, agricultural notifications, Tees in Conservation Area notifications and notifications of intention to demolish buildings.

#### **2. Consultations**

- (a) Observations on applications submitted to other local planning authorities for their determination other than Milton Keynes Partnership Committee.
- (b) Observations on Crown development and development proposed by other outside bodies referred to this Council as consultee authority other than Milton Keynes Partnership Committee.
- (c) Observations on development and ancillary works proposed by statutory undertakers, telecommunications code system operators and other organisations having permitted development rights under the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (as amended).

#### **3. Procedural Matters**

- (a) Finalising the conditions and reasons for refusal, which appear on decision notices.
- (b) The preparation of legal agreements, in consultation with the Service Director Legal and Democratic Services, within the terms of any relevant Development Control Committee resolution.
- (c) Agreeing to accept or not accept minor amendments to planning permission.
- (d) Determining the need for information required to make a decision on a planning application including the need for, and scoping of, an Environmental Assessment.
- (e) Deciding the charge to be made for the provision of information where the normal scale of charges is inappropriate (e.g. information requiring research and/or to be used for commercial purposes.)
- (f) Deciding the Council's preferred method for dealing with appeals (written representations, informal hearing or public inquiry) and their conduct.

- (g) Compliance with the departure procedures contained in the Town and Country Planning Development Plans (England) Direction 1992.
- (h) Determining the need for and making Tree Preservation Orders and confirming such Orders where there are no objections and determining the need for and issuing building preservation notices where urgently required.
- (i) Determining whether planning permission, listed building consent, advertisement consent, tree preservation order consent and hazardous substances consent is required.
- (j) Authorising officers to enter land and make applications to the magistrates court for a warrant authorising entry where applicable in relation to any matter set out in this Part B.

#### **4. Enforcement**

- (a) Determining applications for certificates of lawfulness of existing use or development and certificates of lawfulness of proposed use or development in consultation with Service Director Legal and Democratic Services.
- (b) Determining the need for and service of planning contravention notices.
- (c) Determining the need for and service of breach of condition notices.
- (d) Determining the need for and enforcement of control as to advertisements, the service of discontinuance notices and the removal or obliteration of unlawful placards or posters.
- (e) Determining the need for and service of enforcement notices and listed building enforcement notices.
- (f) Determining the need for and service of Stop Notices, Temporary Stop Notices and injunctions, if urgently required, and subject to the agreement of the Head of Legal Services and, in the case of Stop Notices, the Chair of the Development Control Committee.
- (g) In consultation with the Service Director Legal and Democratic Services to undertake prosecutions where applicable in relation to any matter set out in this Part B, issuing notices under Section 16 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act and Section 330 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended), and issuing notices in respect of derelict land under Section 215 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
- (h) Determining the need for and taking direct action under Section 178 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended).
- (i) Determining the need for and carrying out urgent works and repairs under Section 54 Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservations Area) Act 1990.
- (j) Determining the need to and withdrawing any notice issued under sub-paragraphs (4)(b) to (g) above.

## **5. Rights of Way.**

The determination of all non-executive decisions and carrying out of all functions relating to public paths and rights of way, including those specified in Schedule 1 of the Local Authorities (functions and responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 Functions be delegated to the Service Director Public Realm unless required to be determined by Committee in compliance with relevant legislation.