

ITEM 3(b)

CONSTITUTION COMMISSION

19 APRIL 2017

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE – 6 APRIL 2017

EXTRACT FROM REPORT - PROPOSED CHANGES TO SPEAKER RIGHTS

The proposed changes are set out under the table below. As above, a cross - reference is again provided to the proposals set out in the original report dated 29 September 2016 [i.e. to enable comparison]. The table presents the newly proposed changes in response to the feedback received during the 29 September 2016 DCC and following consultation exercise. This provides an easy comparison to what has changed in light of the feedback received since the original proposals were presented. Please note the changes are in bold.

Speaker Rights		
No	29 September 2016 Proposed Changes	6 April 2017 Proposed Changes
1	<p>Members of the public may request the right to speak at any meeting of the Development Control Committee and the Development Control Panel to object to a planning application. The number of requests to speak will be limited to one per application. A single objector will be allowed to speak for a maximum of 3 minutes. Where there is more than one objector or the objector is representing a group or organisation, they will be limited to 3 minutes in total, but more than one representative may speak. Both the numbers of speakers and the limit maybe extended at the Chair's discretion.'</p> <p>&</p> <p>Members of the public may request the right to speak at any meeting of the Development Control Committee and the Development Control Panel to support a planning application. The number of requests to speak will be limited to one per application. A single supporter will be allowed to speak for a maximum of 3 minutes. Where there is more than one</p>	<p>Members of the public may request the right to speak at any meeting of the Development Control Committee and the Development Control Panel to object or support a planning application. The number of requests will be limited to 3 per application. A single objector or supporter will be allowed to speak for a maximum of 3 minutes. Where there is more than one objector representing a group or organisation, they will be limited to 3 minutes to present the group or organisation's objection or support, but more than one representative may speak on behalf of the group or organisation. Both the number of speakers and the time limit may be extended at the Chair's discretion.</p>

	supporter or the supporter is representing a group or organisation, they will be limited to 3 minutes in total, but more than one representative may speak. Both the numbers of speakers and the limit maybe extended at the Chair's discretion.'	
2		Members of the public, Town and Parish Council and Ward Councillor that speak at any meeting of the Development Control Committee and the Development Control Panel to object or support a planning application have the option to ask 2 questions only of the Officers for each planning application.
3	Ward Councillors may comment on any application either within their ward, or which has a significant impact on the residents of their Ward. Any request to speak must be submitted in accordance with paragraph (h) of this Annex.'	Ward Councillors may comment on any application either within their ward, or which has a significant impact on the residents of their Ward. Any request to speak must be submitted in accordance with paragraph (h) of this Annex.'
4	Ward Councillors may comment speak on any application either within their Ward, or which has a significant impact on the residents of their Ward. If a Ward Councillor gives notice of an intention to speak is objecting to a planning application he/she must advise the Assistant Service Director (Legal and Democratic Services), in order that the applicant can be offered a right of reply. Any request to speak must be submitted in accordance with paragraph (h) of this Annex.'	Ward Councillors may comment speak on any application either within their Ward, or which has a significant impact on the residents of their Ward. If a Ward Councillor gives notice of an intention to speak is objecting to a planning application he/she must advise the Assistant Service Director (Legal and Democratic Services), in order that the applicant can be offered a right of reply. Any request to speak must be submitted in accordance with paragraph (h) of this Annex.'

The key changes now proposed include:

1. Objectors and supporters to have the same rights when speaking.
2. Introduction of option to ask Officers questions directly with a maximum limit of two questions.

It should be noted that the, original, proposed change to reduce the number of speakers and the time for speaking has been removed as a direct response to consultation comments and, therefore, this remains completely unchanged from the current arrangements.