

SELECT COMMITTEE

15 January 2020

Present – The Chair (Councillor Staveley) and Councillors Brown, Hull, Jaquin, Moorby, Pighills, Shuttleworth, Solloway and Sutcliffe.

Officers – Planning Manager, Planning Enforcement Team Leader and Democratic Services Manager.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Metcalfe and Mercer.

Start: 8.10pm

Finish: 8.45pm

Confirmation of Minutes –

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held 20 November 2019 are approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Public Participation –

The Chair welcomed to the meeting, Karen Darvell, Chair of Stirton-with-Thorlby Parish Meeting.

Specific reference was made to local planning concerns, which it was perceived had resulted in a loss of trust and confidence in Council officers and Planning Committee.

The following written request for information was also submitted:

- A qualitative measurement of planning performance (as opposed to the quantitative timings the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) were concerned about);
- The total number of complaints in 2019 about the Planning Department, which do not relate to a planning decision, but which relate to planning procedure, process, management, documentation, etc. including finalised and in progress;
- The length of time it has taken the Council to respond to each finalised complaint;
- The number of reported potential breaches of planning regulations in 2019;
- The number of reported potential breaches of planning regulations it is not considered expedient to investigate in 2019; and
- The average length of time it has taken for Planning Enforcement to either reject or investigate a reported potential planning breach.

Resolved –

- a) That the Planning Manager provides a written response to the above request for information within 10 days.
- b) That a copy of the response is forwarded to all Members of Select Committee.

Declarations of Interest –

There were no declarations of interest.

Minutes for Report

OS.444 **REVIEW OF PLANNING ENFORCEMENT AND BUILDING CONTROL**

The Democratic Services Manager submitted a report which presented Select Committee's Review of Planning Enforcement and Building Control. The Select Committee was invited to consider and agree the review prior to a final version being presented to Policy Committee on 4 February 2020, for approval.

The following amendments to the Review of Planning Enforcement and Building Control were suggested:

- Additional wording to be inserted in relation to the benefits of building resilience in planning services arising from greater staff resources.
- Amendment that two full-time planning enforcement officers, equivalent to scale 5 are recruited to support development from a re-active to pro-active service.

Resolved –

- a) That subject to the above amendments, the Review of Planning Enforcement and Building Control is agreed.
- b) That the Review of Planning Enforcement and Building Control is presented to Policy Committee on 4 February 2020, for approval.

OS.445 **WORK PROGRAMME**

The Democratic Services Manager submitted a report which presented the most recent version of the Select Committee's work programme.

Resolved – That the work programme is noted.

Minutes for Decision

There were no items for decision.

Chairman.