



Report to: Planning Committee, 20th October 2022

Report of: Corporate Director - Planning and Governance

Subject: ANNUAL REVIEW OF PLANNING DECISIONS

1. Recommendation

1.1 To agree arrangements for the annual site inspection of a sample of implemented planning decisions for all Councillors.

2. Background

2.1 Section 13 of the 'Good Practice Protocol for Councillors and Employees Dealing with Planning Matters' (Part 12 of the Council's Constitution) recommends that Councillors visit a sample of sites where planning permissions have been implemented in order to assess the quality of those decisions and outcomes on the ground. Whilst this should be done annually, this has not been possible over the last few years.

2.2 This advice follows the Planning Advisory Services (PAS) guidance in Probity in Planning (2019) which highlights that "[i]t is good practice for councillors to visit a sample of implemented planning permissions to assess the quality of the decisions and the development, ideally on an annual or more frequent basis. This should improve the quality and consistency of decision making, strengthen public confidence in the planning system, and can help with reviews of planning policy. Reviews should include visits to a range of developments such as major and minor schemes, upheld appeals, listed building works and enforcement cases."

2.3 Previously organised site visits have focused on a cross-section of development types. All Councillors will be encouraged to take this opportunity to view the selection of implemented developments across the City.

3. Proposed sites

3.1 The site visits will be scheduled, and further details will be circulated in due course once availability of transport and member availability has been confirmed, to try and ensure that as many members as possible are able to benefit from the site visits. In the meantime, the following site visits are recommended:

21/0629/FUL - Proposed infrastructure required for the future redevelopment of the University of Worcester Severn Campus; comprising non-vehicular access onto Henwick Road (including emergency vehicle access and flood egress, cycle routes and pedestrian 'wellbeing' routes), vehicle parking including electric vehicle and cycle parking, internal servicing and access roads linking to existing vehicular access from Hylton Road, green infrastructure, lighting, drainage, demolition of existing buildings, new University store building, and structures and associated works.

19/01019/FUL – Proposed 74-bedroom care home with associated landscaping and car parking at Worcester North Park And Ride, John Comyn Drive

19/00851/FUL - Demolition of part of an existing industrial building (Class B2) and erection of a retail foodstore (Class A1) with provision of associated car parking, access and landscaping, together with provision of car parking associated with the retained industrial use and new access at JVM Castings Site, Droitwich Road

P18K0195 - Erection of 25 dwellings following demolition of existing dwelling and creation of new site access. Diversion of footpath 681 at 31 Hopton Street

- 3.2 To make the proposed site inspections manageable on the day, it is expected that a maximum of six sites will be visited. Members are encouraged to suggest other sites for inclusion.

Ward (s):	Various
Contact Officer:	Paul Round Tel: 01905 722198
Background Papers:	None