



Report to: Planning Committee, 20th July 2023

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. The arrangements and proposed sites

3.1 The review has been arranged for Thursday 14th September 2023, leaving Copenhagen Street at 10am.

3.2 The site visits will be scheduled, and further details will be circulated in due course. In the meantime, the following site visits are suggested by Officers:

P16B0575 – Mount Battenhall, Battenhall Avenue.

Demolition of modern structures, conversion, change of use and new build to create a care community with communal areas and facilities.

P15B0288 - Former Nalgo Sports Ground, Battenhall Road, Worcester

Full planning application for a residential development of 31 dwellings of which 40% are to be affordable dwellings (12 units), with associated car parking arrangements; both on and off site bio-diversity areas; and utilisation of the existing access off Battenhall Road

- 3.2 Members are encouraged to make additional suggestions of developments that would present interest as part of the review. To make the proposed site inspections manageable on the day, it is expected that a maximum of six sites will be visited. Can suggestions be sent direct to Paul Round, Service Manager – Development Management by **Friday 18th August 2023** at the latest.
- 3.3 The final list of sites and itinerary will be agreed with the Chair and Vice-Chair and circulated to all Members.

Ward (s): Various
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Background Papers: None