
MEETING	PLANNING ENFORCEMENT AD HOC SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
DATE	4 MARCH 2009
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS HYMAN (CHAIR), DOUGLAS, PIERCE, WAUDBY AND WISEMAN

12. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare at this point in the meeting any personal or prejudicial interests they might have in the business on the agenda. None were declared.

13. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2009 be approved as a correct record and be signed by the Chair.

14. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

It was reported that there had been no registrations to speak under the Councils Public Participation Scheme on general issues within the remit of the Sub-Committee

15. PLANNING ENFORCEMENT DRAFT FINAL REPORT

Consideration was given to the draft final report of the Planning Enforcement Ad Hoc Scrutiny Committee and the recommendations, which had arisen from the Committee's review.

The Scrutiny Officer highlighted paragraphs 40 to 43 of the draft final report that suggested the option of gathering further information, prior to the Committee making their final recommendations. Members were advised that if they chose to do this, then the draft final report would require changes. Should Members feel that they needed more information, a request for a time extension would need to be submitted to the Scrutiny Management Committee.

Members considered the draft recommendations and suggested some minor amendments to be made to them in terms of wording. These would

be reported back to the Committee when the draft final report was presented to them at their May meeting.

Members agreed that they required the following further information to complete the review:

- A briefing note regarding the pilot scheme currently being run by Building Control
- A briefing note regarding the possible use of the Land Charges Register to assist with planning enforcement cases.
- A briefing note regarding in which circumstances Members could be used as witnesses in planning enforcement cases.

Members also agreed that further clarity was needed regarding the outstanding recommendations from the 'Powers of Enforcement Take Aways' Review and this would be included in the next report to Committee.

RESOLVED: (i) That briefing notes be prepared for the next meeting in relation to the following:

- The Pilot Scheme on Electronic Equipment.¹
- The circumstances in which members can be used as witnesses in Enforcement cases.
- The use of the Land Charges register.

(ii) That a report be prepared for Scrutiny Management Committee requesting a time extension to this review.²

(iii) That the timetable for completing the review be as follows:

15 th April 2009 at 13:30	Planning and Legal Officers to provide briefings.
Monday 18th May 2009 at 13.30	To receive a Draft Final Report

REASON: To ensure compliance with scrutiny procedures and protocols and work plans.

Action Required

1. Briefings to be prepared for the next meeting of the Planning Enforcement Scrutiny Committee GR
GR
2. A report requesting a time extension be prepared for inclusion on the agenda for the next Scrutiny Management Committee

Councillor Hyman, Chair

[The meeting started at 1.30 pm and finished at 2.00 pm].