



REPORT OF THE INTERIM CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR PLACE DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRESS REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To report on the current activity of the Development Management Team and matters arising of interest to the Committee, including:
 - details of planning applications received between 30th June 2023 and 18th August 2023;
 - confirmation of the decisions made on planning applications since the last report to the Committee on 18th July 2023;
 - details on the Council's current performance; and
 - details of the applications likely to come before the Committee in the coming months.

Information

2. **Appendix A** highlights the applications received and those determined since the last report to the Committee on 18th July 2023. **Appendix B** reports on the Council's performance against statutory targets for the speed and quality of decisions. **Appendix C** sets out the Committee's work programme for forthcoming meetings and members are asked to give consideration to the need for any site visits that would be beneficial on any application scheduled to be reported in the near future.

Government response to the technical consultation on increasing planning fees and performance

3. A report was brought to the Committee on 18th May 2023 to inform members of a Government consultation entitled "Stronger performance of local planning authorities supported from an increase in planning fees". The report set out the Council's proposed comments, which were submitted to the Government.
4. The Government's response to this consultation was received on 25th July 2023. The main proposals are as follows:
 - An increase in planning fees by 35% for major applications and 25% for all other applications, and this includes fees for monitoring.
 - From 1st April 2025, the introduction of an annual inflation-related adjustment to planning fees (this increase will be capped at 10%).
 - The Removal of the 'free-go' for repeat applications.
 - There is currently **no** proposal to double the fees for retrospective applications, but this may be introduced at a future date.

- The reduction of the planning guarantee to 16 weeks for all non-major applications (26 weeks will be retained for major applications).
 - The Government expect local planning authorities to protect the increase from planning fees for direct investment in their planning services (although this will not be legislated for, but left to local decision-making).
 - The response stated the Government's intention to introduce a new planning performance framework once it has increased planning fees and invested in supporting the capacity and capability of planning departments.
5. The changes set out above will be legislated for in a revised Statutory Instrument to be introduced shortly (though no specific date has been given). The Government confirms that it plans to undertake a wider review of the planning fees system in due course.

Waste Transfer Station, Colwick Industrial Estate

6. On 13th December 2022, the Committee refused planning permission for the variation of condition 24 of planning permission 7/2021/0648/NCC to enable the proposed new waste transfer station at Colwick Industrial Estate to operate without the use of the previously consented air filtration plant during periods when there is no waste shredding/refuse derived fuel preparation activities undertaken within the building. The Committee did not wish to see the facility operate with less robust odour controls in place.
7. As with any refusal of planning permission, the applicant has the right to appeal, with the appeal needing to be made within six months of the date of the decision notice being issued. This deadline passed in July and no appeal was made. The applicant has since confirmed that, in the interim period following the refusal of planning permission, a decision was taken to undertake refuse-derived fuel preparation from day one of operations on site, hence the carbon filtration system would be installed and operational immediately. The applicant is, therefore, going to implement the original planning permission granted in September 2021.

Other Options Considered

8. To not produce a progress report and work programme for the Committee: this option is discounted as the progress report and work programme are important in keeping members fully informed on planning matters, particularly where a site visit for an upcoming application may be beneficial in advance of the Committee meeting where it will be considered.

Reasons for Recommendations

9. To keep members informed of planning activity and to assist the Committee in carrying out its responsibilities and preparation its future work effectively.

Statutory and Policy Implications

10. This report has been compiled after consideration of the implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and, where such implications are material, they are described below.

Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues, as required.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) That the Committee reviews the Development Management Progress Report and considers whether any further actions are required, including the arrangement of any site visits.

Derek Higton
Interim Corporate Director for Place

For any enquiries about this report, please contact:

Rebecca Kirkland, Planning Support Officer
development.management@nottscc.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments (JL, 25/08/2023)

11. The Planning and Rights of Way Committee is the appropriate body to consider the contents of this report.

Financial Comments (PAA, 25/08/2023)

12. The Government's proposed changes to planning fees as set out in paragraphs 3-5 should result in additional fee income being received by the Council. Local planning authorities are expected to invest any additional fee income arising from these changes in their planning services, although this will be a matter for each planning authority.

Background Papers and Published Documents

13. Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- None

Electoral Divisions and Members Affected

- All