

## Central Bedfordshire Council

General Purposes Committee

30 June 2016

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### Proposed Revisions to Terms of Reference and Standing Orders for the Wixams Joint Development Control Committee

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#### Purpose of this report

1. To consider the recommendation made by the Wixams Joint Development Control Committee (Wixams JDCC) held on 15 March, 2016 regarding proposed revisions to the Terms of Reference and Standing Orders relating to that Committee; and to include the Standing Orders of the Joint Committee for ease of reference.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Purposes Committee is asked to **RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL**:

1. that the proposed revisions to Part J2 of the Council's Constitution comprising the Terms of Reference of the Wixams Joint Development Control Committee, as reproduced at Appendix A to this report, be approved;
2. that the full Standing Orders of the Wixam's Joint Development Committee, including the Scheme of Public Participation, be set out in the Council's Constitution as shown at Appendix A to this report.

#### Overview and Scrutiny Comments/Recommendations

1. None, responsibility for consideration of this matter falls within the remit of the General Purposes Committee rather than the overview and scrutiny function.

## **Background**

2. At its meeting on 21 October 2015, Members of the Wixams Joint Development Control Committee acknowledged that there was scope for reducing the type of matters brought before the Committee for determination and increasing those which could be delegated to the officers at Bedford Borough Council and Central Bedfordshire Council. As a result a report setting out proposed revisions to the Committee's Terms of Reference and Standing Orders was submitted to the Wixams JDCC on 15 March 2016 for consideration. The revisions were agreed by the Wixams JDCC and recommended to the General Purposes Committees of both Councils for approval.
3. The agreed revisions, as they impact on the relevant section of Part J2 (Joint Arrangements) of Central Bedfordshire Council's Constitution, which refers to the Wixams JDCC Terms of Reference, are attached at Appendix A. This also includes the Standing Orders, for the sake of transparency and ease of reference.
4. The proposed revisions aim to provide clarification and certainty as to which types of planning application will be considered and determined by the Wixams JDCC and which will be determined through Officer delegated powers. The proposed revisions also provide updated guidance, reflecting the formation of Central Bedfordshire Council and its location at offices in Chicksands.
5. The implications of the rider following proposed revised Standing Order 14 which states "All other relevant parts of the scheme of delegation to authorised officers of Bedford Borough Council and Central Bedfordshire Council are deemed to apply in respect of planning applications considered by the Joint Committee" includes:
  - a. that the provision to enable ward Members to call-in delegated matters for determination by the Joint Committee applies, as set out in Part H3 paragraph 4.4.21 of Central Bedfordshire Council's constitution, and Planning Committee Scheme of Delegations to Officers, Delegations to the Assistant Director Planning, Planning Services Group Delegation, Schedule 3 paragraph (2) and the paragraph which follows, of Bedford Borough Council's constitution.

## **Council Priorities**

6. Updating the Wixams JDCC Terms of Reference contributes towards the Council's priority of being 'a more efficient and responsive Council'.

## **Corporate Implications**

## **Legal Implications**

7. There are no legal implications to the revisions.

#### **Financial and Risk Implications**

8. There are no financial and risk implications.

#### **Equalities Implications**

9. No equality issues have been identified.

#### **Implications for Work Programming**

10. There are none.

#### **Conclusion and next Steps**

11. Any recommendation by the General Purposes Committee to revise the Wixams JDCC Terms of Reference and Standing Orders will be submitted to the next meeting of Full Council on 21 July 2016 for approval.

#### **Appendices**

The following Appendix is attached: -

Appendix A - Revised Terms of Reference, including Standing Orders, for Wixams Joint Development Control Committee - Part J2 (Joint Arrangements) of the Council's Constitution

#### **Background Papers**

12. The following background papers, not previously available to the public, were taken into account and are available on the Council's website:

None