

SCHEME OF DELEGATION TO OFFICERS

Applications submitted to the Council are usually dealt with by officers under delegated powers except when it is considered that the proposals should be determined by the Planning Applications Committee.

This may occur in the following circumstances:

- (i) where a request is made by an ESBC Councillor for the application to be determined by the Committee, and/or
- (ii) where approval of an application is considered which would be contrary to adopted Development Plan policy, such that its approval would represent a significant departure, and/or
- (iii) the view of the Head of Regulatory Services or the Planning Manager is that the application is of significant public interest

Requests for Committee consideration by ESBC councillors must be made in writing to the Head of Regulatory Services and within 21 days of the publication of the application on the weekly list of applications. Such requests shall give a reasoned justification for the application being considered at Committee rather than under delegated powers, and may include a request for the Committee to carry out a site visit as part of their deliberations.

In arriving at a conclusion as to whether or not to refer an application to the Planning Applications Committee the Head of Regulatory Services or the Planning Manager, in consultation with the Chairman of the Planning Applications Committee, in accordance with (i), (ii) or (iii) above, will also apply the following criteria in reaching their decision:

- (a) whether there is an issue of consistency of officer recommendation vis a vis similar recent applications;
- (b) whether the nature of previous decisions relating to the application site may warrant referral to the Committee;
- (c) where the proposed officer decision may conflict with the Council's Corporate policies.

Provided also that the Head of Regulatory Services, or other officers authorised by him, may refer any matter relating to the powers functions referred to above to the Planning Applications Committee for a decision if he determines it expedient to do so in the interests of the Council or the public.