

## **Urgent Report to the Chief Executive**

**Subject:** Agreement of Membership of the Planning Delegation Panel

**Date:** 25 May 2023

**Author:** Head of Development and Place

### **Purpose**

To agree the Membership of the Planning delegation panel.

### **Recommendation**

#### **THAT:**

That the following members of the Planning Committee be agreed as the six permanent members of the Planning Delegation Panel:

**Councillor Roy Allan**

**Councillor Stuart Bestwick**

**Councillor David Ellis**

**Councillor Ron McCrossen**

**Councillor Lynda Pearson**

**Councillor Ruth Strong**

## **1.0 Background**

1.1 An urgent decision is required to ensure that planning applications which do not need to be decided by Planning Committee can be determined in advance of the first scheduled Planning Committee meeting on 21 June 2023. Failure to hold weekly meetings will result in statutory performance targets not being achieved and will cause significant delays for homeowners and businesses.

1.2 The Gedling constitution permits the Director within whose responsibility the matter falls shall have authority after consultation with the appropriate Chairman or Vice Chairman to take all necessary decisions on all urgent matters falling within the remit of the appropriate

Committee or Sub-Committee. Consultation has been undertaken with Councillor Roy Allan, Chairman of the Planning Committee, who has nominated the permanent Planning Delegation Panel Members.

- 1.3 The Planning Delegation Panel (the Panel) is a consultative body, made up of members drawn from and agreed by the Planning Committee, although all Councillors may attend meetings of the Panel and contribute to discussions.
- 1.4 The purpose of the Panel, as set out in the Constitution, is to be consulted by the Director responsible for the planning service (or in practice, the Head of Development and Place, Development Manager or Principal Planning Officer with delegated authority), in respect of all planning applications which do not fall to be decided by him under his other delegations, and to decide which of these applications he will determine and which he will refer to the Planning Committee for determination. To be clear, this does not apply to the following applications which will always go before the Planning Committee:

a) Applications proposing 5,000 or more square metres of new commercial floor-space.

b) Applications proposing ten or more residential dwellings

The Panel do not determine planning applications, but do provide another level of oversight of planning decisions to ensure further probity and transparency in the decision making process.

- 1.5 The Constitution provides detail as to the make-up and operation of the Panel.

The Panel must consist of a permanent membership of six Councillors drawn from and agreed by the Planning Committee. In the event a permanent member of the Panel is unable to attend, another member of the Planning Committee may act as substitute.

The quorum for the Panel is three.

Meetings of the Panel will be held each Friday and the agenda for the meeting will be issued in advance.

Where an application is added to the agenda after it has been circulated, the panel members and relevant ward members will be notified.

All Councillors may attend the meetings and contribute to discussions.

Notes of each meeting of the Panel will be included as information items on the next available Planning Committee agenda.

## **2 Proposal**

- 2.1 In accordance with the Constitution, and as set out above, it is proposed that the following members of the Planning Committee be

approved as the six permanent members of the Panel:

Councillor Roy Allan  
Councillor Stuart Bestwick  
Councillor David Ellis  
Councillor Ron McCrossen  
Councillor Lynda Pearson  
Councillor Ruth Strong

- 2.2 Having a permanent membership of six members ensures compliance with the Constitution, and also ensures that there are sufficient members to call on to ensure quoracy at all meetings of the Panel.

### **3 Resource Implications**

- 3.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

### **4 Appendices**

- 4.1 None