



Councillor John Mackman

Deputy Leader of the Council

Report to Council on Tuesday 26 March 2019

This report covers the period from the Council meeting on 21 February 2019. During this period I have attended Executive and Executive Briefings and represented the Council at local and regional meetings including deputising for the Leader as required.

Reporting on the key items:-

1) Planning Service Review

Sustained progress has been made in the following areas:

In the period between 01.02.2019 to 28.02.2019, 80% of majors were determined within the statutory period or agreed extension of time. This equates to 5 determined, 0 within the statutory 13 weeks, 4 within the extension of time period agreed and 1 which was out of time. This is compared with 100% in the same period last year which equates to 3 determined, 0 within the statutory 13 weeks and 3 within the extension of time period agreed and 0 out of time. These figures are higher than the national designation targets set by the Government for majors which is 60%.

In the period between 01.02.2019 to 28.02.2019, 67% of non-majors (minors and others) were determined within the statutory period or agreed extension of time. This equates to 55 determined, 18 within the statutory 8 weeks and 19 within the extension of time period agreed and 18 out of time. This is compared with 82% in the same period last year. This equates to 39 determined, 15 within the statutory 8 weeks, 17 within the extension of time period agreed and 7 out of time. Current performance on non-major applications is down from last year however the figure is broadly in line with the 70% national designation targets set by the Government target for non-majors. It should be noted that a higher number of cases has been dealt with than in the same period last year.

No appeals were determined in the period between 01.02.2019 to 28.02.2019.

We currently have a vacancy within the team for a Planning Officer and we are in the process of recruiting. It is anticipated that once the post is filled performance will increase.

Over the past few months there has been a focus on reducing the backlog of planning enforcement cases. There are currently approximately 250 open cases which is around a 37% reduction in the number of live cases that were open in July 2018.

The Enterprise system was launched on the 12th of March which will support workflow improvements in the DM service. This new IT case load management tool/package will be of great benefit to Planning Officers in managing their workloads

2) Planning Enforcement Management Plan

The Planning Enforcement Management Plan (PEMP) was agreed by Leadership Team, after consideration by Policy Scrutiny in February. The plan is now live and will be available on the website. An All Member Briefing presented the Plan to Members on the 4th of March and received a positive response overall and the improvements in performance to date were recognised.

The plan will now be integrated into the service review actions. Work will now be undertaken to tailor the new Enterprise system to enable workflow management for Enforcement so that we have the best chance of achieving the ambitious targets agreed in the PEMP. A Working Group is being set up including the Chair of Planning, Head of service and Principal enforcement Officer to monitor progress. A full six month review will report back to Leadership Team on performance against the Plan.

3) PLAN Selby – next steps

Technical work to look at the deliverability and viability of sites in Tadcaster is ongoing. Car Park survey to inform this work will be undertaken in April with a final report due in May. Further work on the Site Allocations Local Plan will progress pending the outcome of this additional technical work.

Preparation of an Olympia Park Site Supplementary Planning Document is almost complete. The document will include a Masterplan and Development Brief for the whole site in order to meet the requirements of Core Strategy Policy SP7. The Supplementary Planning Document will be subject to public consultation in early summer.

Initial work has commenced on a piece of work with North Yorkshire County which will consider the infrastructure requirements and potential improvements in the Sherburn in Elmet and Western Area of the District. This work is being undertaken through the Better Together initiative.

4) Housing Delivery Test

The Housing Delivery Test was introduced in the Revised National Planning Policy Framework and measures the net additional dwellings provided in a local authority against the homes required, using national statistics and local authority data.

On the 19 February 2019 the Secretary of State published the 2018 measurement results. The Housing Delivery Test period covers the previous three financial years; in the case of the 2018 measurement the years are 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18.

The results showed that against the requirement of 1,046 new homes (based on housing need requirement figures) 1,615 homes had been delivered giving the Council a result of 154% and therefore no consequences will apply in Selby District.

5) Drax Power Station DCO

The Drax Repower NSIP project was received by the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) on 29 May and was 'accepted' (26 June) by PINS for 'Examination'.

The open floor/issue specific hearings commenced in the first week of December and the last of these sessions took place in mid-February. We have worked collaboratively with North Yorkshire

County Council on a joint Planning Performance Agreement (PPA) and in participating in the examination process which will formally close on 4 April 2019.

6) Ferrybridge Station

SSE is proposing to develop a new gas-fired power station and associated gas supply pipeline (together 'the project') at and near Ferrybridge, Knottingley, to be known as Ferrybridge D. The project will be located on and within the administrative boundaries of Wakefield Metropolitan District Council, Selby District Council and North Yorkshire County Council.

The power station will be capable of producing up to 2,200 megawatts. This means that the power station will be a nationally significant infrastructure project. SSE will require a Development Consent Order under the Planning Act 2008.

A Planning Performance Agreement was signed and agreed earlier this year and through this the costs to the planning service are being covered.

A report is expected to be presented to Executive in April to seek confirmation on the arrangements for responding to the draft Development Consent Order and all further necessary representations by the District Council, together with post decision monitoring of relevant planning conditions.

7) Selby and District Housing Trust

Work is still progressing on the construction of 12 homes for the Trust on the Ousegate site in Selby. We expect the first six properties to be completed and handed over on the 8th April and the second six on the 24th April. The first six houses have all been pre-allocated and we are advertising for tenants for the remaining homes using the North Yorkshire Home Choice Scheme (Choice Based Lettings) during week commencing 18th March. At Ulleskelf the final 6 properties will be completed in April. We expect the three 2 bed houses to be handed over at the beginning of April and the three 3 bed homes in mid April. We have advertised for the 2 bed homes and these have been pre-allocated - one through a management transfer and the other two having a local connection.

John Mackman
Deputy Leader of the Council