

**South Cambridgeshire District Council
Record of Executive Decision**

This form should be used to record key and other decisions made by individual Lead Cabinet members. The contact officer will ensure that the signed and completed form is given to Democratic Services as soon as reasonably practicable after the decision has been taken.

A key decision shall not be taken unless notice of the item has been published at least 28 days before the decision is to be taken except where:

- a General Exception notice has been published under Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules and the Chairman of Scrutiny and Overview Committee has been informed in writing; or
- a Special Urgency notice has been published under Rule 16 of those Rules and the Chairman of Scrutiny and Overview Committee has agreed the decision is urgent.

Unless permission has been obtained from the Chairman of Council and the Chairman of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee that this decision may be treated as a matter of urgency under Rule 12.19 of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee Procedure Rules, this decision will come into force, and may then be implemented, on the expiry of five working days after the publication of the decision, unless called in under Rule 7 of the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules or Rule 12 of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee Procedure Rules. Where consent has been obtained to exempt the decision from call-in, this will be specified below.

Lead Cabinet Member	Lead Cabinet member for Planning
Subject Matter	Joint Response to Government Consultation - Supporting Housing Delivery & Public Service Infrastructure
Ward(s) Affected	All Wards
Date Taken	Tuesday, 19 January 2021
Contact Officer	Jonathan Dixon, Planning Policy Manager, Bruce Waller, Senior Planning Policy Officer (jonathan.dixon@scambs.gov.uk, Bruce.Waller@cambridge.gov.uk)
Date Published	Tuesday, 19 January 2021
Call-In Expiry/Exempt from call-in	Tuesday, 26 January 2021
Key Decision?	No
In Forward Plan?	No
Urgent?	No

Purpose / Background
<p>Purpose</p> <p>1. The purpose of this report is:</p> <p>a. To agree the response to the government's consultation - Supporting Housing Delivery & Public Service Infrastructure (see Appendix 1). The response has been prepared jointly with Cambridge City Council.</p>

- b. To delegate any further minor editing changes to the response to the government's consultation - Supporting Housing Delivery & Public Service Infrastructure to the Joint Director for Planning and Economic Development where they are technical matters.
2. The deadline for the submission of comments to the consultation is 28 January 2021. In order to agree the joint response and submit these comments in time, it has been agreed by the Cabinet Member for Planning to agree these via a decision outside of a meeting (together with the Executive Member for Planning Policy at Cambridge City Council).

Government's Consultation - Supporting Housing Delivery & Public Service Infrastructure

3. In 2020, the government's 'Planning for the future' white paper consultation outlined its longer-term changes to the planning system. This has now been followed a separate consultation 'Supporting Housing Delivery and Public Service Infrastructure' to explore more immediate changes to the planning system. The three main parts are, as follows:
 - The introduction of a new permitted development right for a change of use to residential to create new homes
 - To amend existing permitted development rights to allow schools, colleges and universities, hospitals and prisons to expand and adapt their buildings, and a new streamlined planning application process for hospitals, schools and prisons
 - The approach to simplifying and consolidating existing permitted development rights following changes to the Use Classes Order
4. The first section of the consultation is concerned with the introduction of a new permitted development right to allow Class Use E uses to convert to residential use without the need for planning permission. The government revised the use class regime in 2020 and these changes included a new planning use class, Commercial, Business and Service use class to include uses generally found on the high street such as shops, banks and restaurants, and broadens it to encompass a wider range of uses such as gyms, creches and offices. The government is proposing a single right that provides for the change of use from any use within the Commercial, Business and Service use class to residential (C3).
5. The second section of the consultation is concerned with the proposal to extend existing permitted development rights to allow schools, colleges and universities, hospitals and prisons to expand and adapt their buildings, without the need to seek planning permission.
6. The third section of the consultation is concerned with the consolidation and simplification of some existing permitted development rights, following the revised use class orders, introduced in 2020.

Next Steps

7. Once agreed by Cabinet Member for Planning at South Cambridgeshire District Council and the Executive Member for Planning Policy at Cambridge City Council, the Greater Cambridge response to the Government's Consultation - Supporting Housing

Delivery & Public Service Infrastructure will be submitted to the Government's consultation.

Declaration(s) of Interest

Record below any relevant interest declared by any executive Member consulted or by an officer present in relation to the decision.

None

Dispensation(s)

In respect of any conflict(s) of interest declared above, record below any dispensation(s) granted by the Council's Standards Committee.

None

Consultation

Record below all parties consulted in relation to the decision.

None.

Other Options Considered and Reasons for Rejection

To not submit Greater Cambridge's response to the government's consultation - Supporting Housing Delivery & Public Service Infrastructure.

Reason for Rejection: South Cambridgeshire District Council's opinion on the proposed changes to the planning system would not be submitted as part of the government's consultation.

Final decision	Reason(s)
<p>That the Cabinet Member for Planning agrees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. the response to the Government's Consultation - Supporting Housing Delivery & Public Service Infrastructure (see Appendix 1). The response has been prepared jointly with Cambridge City Council.b. to delegate any further minor editing changes to the response to the Government's Consultation - Supporting Housing Delivery & Public Service Infrastructure to the Joint Director for Planning and Economic Development where they are technical matters.	<p>The deadline for the submission of comments to the consultation is 28 January 2021. In order to agree the joint response and submit these comments in time, it has been agreed by the Cabinet Member for Planning to agree these via a decision outside of a meeting (together with the Executive Member for Planning Policy at Cambridge City Council).</p>

Signed	Name (CAPITALS)	Signature	Date
Lead Cabinet Member Chief Officer	Signed copy available upon request from Democratic Services (democratic.services@scams.gov.uk)		

Further Information

Appendices

Appendix 1: Greater Cambridge response to the Government's Consultation - Supporting Housing Delivery & Public Service Infrastructure.

Background Papers

The consultation materials are available: [online](#)