

Important information that forms consideration for all applications being considered by this committee.

To avoid duplicate information being repeated in each report this information is centralised here for consideration.

Plans and Documents

The application, plans and documents submitted by the Applicant for all applications presented to committee can be viewed online at www.midsuffolk.gov.uk or www.babergh.gov.uk leading to the joint web site for the Councils.

Policies and Planning Consideration

All applications have been assessed with regard to adopted development plan policies, the National Planning Policy Framework and all other material considerations. Detailed assessment of policies in relation to the recommendation and issues highlighted in each case will be carried out within the assessments attached. From an assessment of relevant planning policy and guidance, representations received, the planning designations and other material issues the main planning considerations considered relevant to each case are set out.

Where a decision is taken under a specific express authorisation, the names of any Member of the Council or local government body who has declared a conflict of interest are recorded in the minutes for the meeting.

Note on National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) contains the Government's planning policies for England and sets out how these are expected to be applied. Planning law continues to require that applications for planning permission are determined in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The policies contained within the NPPF are a material consideration and should be taken into account for decision-making purposes.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) *"does not change the statutory status of the Development Plan as the starting point for decision making. Proposed development that accords with an up-to-date Local Plan should be approved, and proposed development that conflicts should be refused unless other material considerations indicate otherwise"*.

The NPPF also provides (para 187) that *"Local planning authorities should look for solutions rather than problems, and decision-takers at every level should seek to approve applications for sustainable development where possible. Local planning authorities should work proactively with applicants to secure developments that improve the economic, social and environmental conditions of the area."*

Note on Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations (CIL)

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a fixed rate payment that councils can charge on new buildings in their area to off-set the impacts of additional homes and businesses on facilities such as roads, schools, open space and health centres (infrastructure) and to enable sustainable growth. Section 106 legal agreements will be used alongside CIL to secure on-site infrastructure and obligations that are not infrastructure, such as affordable housing, when identified and recommended to fulfil the tests under the CIL Regulations.

Note on Obligations and Conditions

NPPF Paragraph 203 states *“Local planning authorities should consider whether otherwise unacceptable development could be made acceptable through the use of conditions or planning obligations. Planning obligations should only be used where it is not possible to address unacceptable impacts through a planning condition.”*

For each recommendation, in accordance with the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations, 2010, the obligations recommended to be secured shall only be recommended for consideration when considered (a) necessary to make the Development acceptable in planning terms (b) directly related to the Development and (c) fairly and reasonably relate in scale and kind to the Development.

For each recommendation, in accordance with the NPPF Paragraph 206 the conditions recommended to be secured shall only be recommended for consideration when considered necessary, relevant to planning and to the development to be permitted, enforceable, precise and reasonable in all other respects.

Details of Financial Benefits / Implications (S155 Housing and Planning Act 2016)

Under Section 155 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016 it states, *“A local planning authority in England must make arrangements to ensure that the required financial benefits information is included in each report which is made by an officer or agent of the authority for the purposes of a non-delegated determination of an application for planning permission”.*

Financial benefits for new housing, businesses or extensions are generally as follows and are not considered to be material to the applications being determined: -

- Council Tax
- New Home Bonus
- Business Rates

Any further material or non material benefits in addition to those listed above shall be specifically reported to members, including any interests on land owned by the Council. Community Infrastructure Levy and Section 106 obligations that may include financial benefit or adoption of land to the Council may also be sought and are considered to be material.

Statement Required By Article 35 Of The Town And Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Order 2015.

When determining planning applications, The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 requires Local Planning Authorities to explain whether, and if so how, in dealing with the application they have worked with the applicant to resolve any problems or issues arising. This shall be detailed within the officer report and/or shall be detailed on any decision issued as necessary.

Note on Photos

All sites are visited by the planning officer as part of their assessment. Officers will take photographs of the site for the purpose of explaining features of the site and providing context for members consideration of the proposal. These photos are taken at random times and during normal working hours in accordance with the Council's lone working requirements. Photographs are helpful, but have accepted limitations that may include showing appropriate scale, understanding levels and showing any traffic circumstance of the local area.