



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (WAVERLEY)

LOCAL COMMITTEE PROTOCOL ON PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

18 JUNE 2010

KEY ISSUE

To confirm the Committee's arrangements for public speaking at meetings.

SUMMARY

Local Committees are bound to comply fully with Standing Orders Sections 2 & 3 of the Council's Constitution except where the Committee draws up local protocols setting out minor variations to working practices based on improving public engagement (SO41.1). The Council has also put in place arrangements for public speaking in relation to Rights of Way (ROW) matters. The Committee is asked to confirm its amended Local Protocol adopted during 2009.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Waverley) is asked to confirm the provisions of its Local Protocol on Public Engagement as set out in Annex 1.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 At its meeting on 4 May 2004 the County Council agreed that Local Committees should have discretion to operate more flexibly in relation to public engagement. It was formally agreed that Local Committees should comply fully with Standing Orders (Parts 2 and 3) except where they draw up local protocols allowing them discretion to make minor variations to working practices relating to public engagement.
- 1.2 Subsequently, on 28 April 2009, the County Council further agreed to extend public speaking to those occasions when Local Committees are considering Rights of Way matters.

ITEM 7

- 1.3 The Local Committee has developed its Protocol (**Annex 1**) through formal decisions at meetings on 22 October 2004, 10 July 2009 and 11 September 2009.
- 1.4 The Committee is reminded of arrangements which have now been put in place to permit local businesses to present petitions and questions to all local committees (Standing Orders 65.1 and 66.1).

2 OPTIONS

- 2.1 The Local Committee is invited to confirm the provisions of its existing protocol.

3 CONSULTATIONS

- 3.1 Relevant legal advice was sought in developing the protocol.

4 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no specific implications.

5 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The protocol seeks to extend the opportunities for residents to engage with the work of the Local Committee.

6 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no specific implications.

7 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 On the basis of the arrangements contained within its protocol the Local Committee has been successful in attracting a high level of public interest and it is invited to endorse the protocol.

8 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 8.1 Subject to the agreement of the Local Committee, the arrangements set out in **Annex 1** will apply to all future meetings.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: None