

Report to:

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Relevant Officer:

Susan Parker – Head of Development Management

Date of Meeting:

14 November 2023

Blackpool Council - Development Management - Scheme of Delegation

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To update the existing scheme of delegation to address an omission.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To adopt the proposed amended scheme of delegation attached as Appendix 7a.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure that the Council's scheme of delegation for Development Management functions is fit for purpose.

3.2 Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.3 Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:

4.1 Maintain the scheme of delegation as existing or make alternative amendments. It should be noted to maintaining the existing scheme of delegation is not recommended

5.0 Council priority:

5.1 Both Council priorities are relevant:

- "The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool"
- "Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience"

6.0 Background information

6.1 The Scheme of Delegation for Development Management was last approved in September 2023. Since then two applications for Permissions in Principle have been submitted to the Council. The Council has only received one other application for Permission in Principle in 2019. Given how very infrequently such applications are

submitted, reference to them was omitted from the Scheme of Delegation brought before Members in September. This was an over-sight which needs to be corrected.

6.2 A decision on Permission in Principle applications needs to be made within 5 weeks of receipt. This effectively precludes such applications from being brought before Planning Committee. As such, the updated Scheme of Delegation includes such applications within the list of application types under para 3.4.2 that will always be determined under delegated authority.

6.3 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

7.0 List of Appendices:

7.1 Appendix 7a – proposed scheme of delegation

8.0 Financial considerations:

8.1 No material financial considerations identified, although an up-to-date scheme of delegation may enable more efficient operation of Council functions.

9.0 Legal considerations:

9.1 No material legal considerations identified.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 No material risk management considerations identified, although an up-to-date scheme of delegation may help to minimise risk by providing greater certainty for Council functions.

11.0 Equalities considerations and the impact of this decision for our children and young people:

11.1 No material equality considerations identified.

12.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:

12.1 No material sustainability, climate change or environmental considerations identified.

13.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:

13.1 None.

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 None