

Cabinet Meeting – Thursday 10th September

Minute 48

Councillor Pat Hackett introduced a report by the Strategic Director, Regeneration and Environment which sought the Cabinet's approval to establish a register of brownfield sites suitable for residential development and where relevant to develop Local Development Orders on identified suitable sites. Councillor Hackett also proposed amended recommendations.

Appended to the Strategic Director's report were the following appendices:

Appendix 1 - Sites without planning permission currently identified as suitable, available and viable for new housing development (April 2015)

Appendix 2 – Sites without planning permission currently identified as suitable but not currently viable for new housing development (April 2015)

Appendix 3 – Plans of sites listed in Appendix 1

Appendix 4 – Plans of sites listed in Appendix 2

The Cabinet noted that a Local Development Order would grant planning permission for housing in principle, subject to the approval of a limited number of technical details. Approval would support the objective to deliver more housing on brownfield land and would help to demonstrate the Council's ongoing commitment to support regeneration and meet the Borough's housing needs on previously developed sites. It would also support the delivery of more houses in line with the Wirral Council Plan: A 2020 Vision, which had set the objective of building 3,500 new homes by 2020.

The report recommended that the Portfolio Holder for the Economy be granted delegated authority to determine all future matters regarding the making of Local Development Orders and recommended that the Council noted the delegation of this function to the Portfolio Holder for the Economy and agrees that the necessary amendments be made to the Council's Constitution.

Councillor Bernie Mooney informed the Cabinet that she was pleased to see these changes and that local Councillors would be involved as they needed to have a say in what was built on brown field sites. She welcomed the amended recommendations and hoped that by approving them the Cabinet would help to speed up projects and procedures. Suitable houses and flat etc. needed to be built.

RESOLVED: That:

- (1) the establishment of a register of suitable brownfield sites for development initially on the basis of sites listed in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 to the report be approved;**

- (2) the Brownfield Land Register be reviewed every six months by the Planning Committee and that during this review, sites which meet the criteria for brownfield land be added and sites that have been developed be removed;**
- (3) an up to date version of the register, including site plans, be published for public inspection on the Council's website;**
- (4) the Head of Regeneration and Planning be authorised to prepare draft Local Development Orders for sites identified on the register as appropriate, in consultation with Ward Members, and undertakes consultation on these as set out in the national legislation;**
- (5) the Head of Regeneration and Planning be requested to report the draft Local Development Orders and the outcome of the consultation to the Planning Committee who will determine the final adoption of an Order; and**
- (6) the report be referred to the Planning Committee for noting.**

Councillor Stuart Whittingham returned to the meeting.