
REPORT TO:	STANDARDS COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 7
DATE OF MEETING:	4 TH JULY 2006	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	MONITORING OFFICER	OPEN PARAGRAPH NO: N/A
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	NEIL BETTERIDGE (595895)	DOC:
SUBJECT:	PUBLIC SPEAKING AT DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	

1.0 Reason for Exempt

1.1 Not applicable.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That any comments from the Committee be reported to the Full Council Meeting on 6th July 2006.

3.0 Purpose of Report

3.1 To consider proposals to introduce public speaking at Meetings of the Development Control Committee.

4.0 Detail

4.1 Unlike many authorities, South Derbyshire District Council does not currently allow for public speaking at its Development Control Committee. As such, the Council commissioned research to consider the ways in which public speaking is accommodated in other local authorities and to make recommendations on a procedure that could be used if the Council was to allow for public speaking. The research has reviewed several alternative approaches to public speaking adopted in other local authorities and this information has been used to make recommendations on an approach that could be adopted if it is decided to introduce public speaking. The research has also identified some of the impacts of public speaking on Committee Members, officers and members of the public.

4.2 The report attached at Annexe 'A' was considered by the Environmental and Development Services Committee on 1st June 2006 and the recommendations were approved for consideration by the Full Council on 6th July 2006, subject to any comments made by the Development Control Committee on 27th June 2006 and also by this Committee.

5.0 Financial Implications

5.1 None.

6.0 Corporate Implications

6.1 The introduction of public speaking will meet a requirement relating to "community focus" in the Local Code of Corporate Governance.

7.0 Community Implications

7.1 If introduced successfully, the scheme should enrich the community's participation in the determination of planning applications and lead to a better understanding of the decision-making process.

8.0 Background Papers

8.1 None.