

Report of	Meeting	Date
Chair of Development Control Committee	Development Control Committee	16 July 2019

## DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE - CHANGE OF COMMITTEE NAME

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

- To propose the change of name of the Committee to Planning Committee to Full Council for approval.

### RECOMMENDATION(S)

- That this Committee support for recommendation to Full Council the proposal to change the name of the Committee to Planning Committee.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

- It is proposed to change the name of this Committee from Development Control Committee to Planning Committee. The current name of the Committee does not accurately represent the work of the Committee in the usual meaning of the words. Development Control gives the impression of a regulatory or enforcement committee. Most of the business discharged is the consideration of planning applications rather than enforcement works. The change of name will make it easier for members of the public to understand the role of the committee.

Confidential report Please bold as appropriate	Yes	No

### CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Involving residents in improving their local area and equality of access for all		A strong local economy	
Clean, safe and healthy homes and communities		An ambitious council that does more to meet the needs of residents and the local area	X

### BACKGROUND

- The committee name "Development Control" gives the impression to the public of an enforcement driven committee that has an adversarial position against developers who are frequently members of the public rather than large organisations.
- This is a misrepresentation of the work undertaken by the Committee, that seeks to carefully balance the interests of applicants and objectors to come to a reasonable and reasoned decision.
- It has been recognised by the Chair, Executive Member and other members of this Committee that the name Development Control on occasion contributes to an adversarial

atmosphere between parties and occasionally between members of the public and the Committee itself.

8. A change in the name of the Committee to Planning Committee, demonstrates that the focus of the Committee business will be planning law and policy with decisions taken within that framework. The removal of the word "control" in particular, reduces the impression of an enforcement driven Committee.
9. The naming of other committees in Lancashire has been reviewed. Nine of thirteen committees are simply referenced as Planning Committee, one is Planning and Highways with another as Planning and Development. Two committees are Development Control. Although, this should not be a reason to change the Committee name it should be recognised that being consistent across authorities will aid members of the public in understanding the functions of the Committee.
10. It is proposed therefore to change the name of the Committee to Planning Committee.

## IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

11. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Directors' comments are included:

Finance		Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal		Integrated Impact Assessment required?	
No significant implications in this area	X	Policy and Communications	

12. This proposed change carries no risk.

## COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER

13. No comments.

## COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

14. No comments.

CHRIS MOISTER  
MONITORING OFFICER

Report Author	Ext	Date
CHRIS MOISTER	5160	1 JULY 2019