

Item No. 7	Classification: Open	Date: 22 February 2022	Meeting Name: Planning Committee
Report title:		Development Management	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Proper Constitutional Officer	

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the determination of planning applications, or formal observations and comments, the instigation of enforcement action and the receipt of the reports included in the attached items be considered.
2. That the decisions made on the planning applications be subject to the conditions and/or made for the reasons set out in the attached reports unless otherwise stated.
3. That where reasons for decisions or conditions are not included or not as included in the reports relating to an individual item, they be clearly specified.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

4. The council's powers to consider planning business are detailed in Part 3F which describes the role and functions of the planning committee and planning sub-committees. These were agreed by the annual meeting of the council on 23 May 2012. The matters reserved to the planning committee and planning sub-committees exercising planning functions are described in part 3F of the Southwark Council constitution.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

5. In respect of the attached planning committee items members are asked, where appropriate:
 - a. To determine those applications in respect of site(s) within the borough, subject where applicable, to the consent of the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and any directions made by the Mayor of London.
 - b. To give observations on applications in respect of which the council is not the planning authority in planning matters but which relate to site(s) within the borough, or where the site(s) is outside the borough but may affect the amenity of residents within the borough.
 - c. To receive for information any reports on the previous determination of applications, current activities on site, or other information relating to specific planning applications requested by members.

6. Each of the following items are preceded by a map showing the location of the land/property to which the report relates. Following the report, there is a draft decision notice detailing the officer's recommendation indicating approval or refusal. Where a refusal is recommended the draft decision notice will detail the reasons for such refusal.
7. Applicants have the right to appeal to the Secretary of State (vis the Planning Inspectorate) against a refusal of planning permission and against any condition imposed as part of permission. Costs are incurred in presenting the council's case at appeal which maybe substantial if the matter is dealt with at a public inquiry.
8. The sanctioning of enforcement action can also involve costs such as process serving, court costs and of legal representation.
9. Where either party is felt to have acted unreasonably in an appeal the inspector can make an award of costs against the offending party.
10. All legal/counsel fees and costs as well as awards of costs against the council are borne by the budget of the relevant department.

Community impact statement

11. Community impact considerations are contained within each item.

SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

Director of Law and Governance

12. A resolution to grant planning permission means that the director of planning and growth is authorised to grant planning permission. The resolution does not itself constitute the permission and only the formal document authorised by the committee and issued under the signature of the director of planning and growth constitutes a planning permission. Any additional conditions required by the committee will be recorded in the minutes and the final planning permission issued will reflect the requirements of the planning committee.
13. A resolution to grant planning permission subject to legal agreement means that the director of planning and growth is authorised to issue a planning permission subject to the applicant and any other necessary party entering into a written agreement in a form of words prepared by the director of law and governance , and which is satisfactory to the director of planning and growth. Developers meet the council's legal costs of such agreements. Such an agreement is entered into under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 or under another appropriate enactment as determined by the director of law and governance . The planning permission will not be issued unless such an agreement is completed.
14. Section 70 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended requires the council to have regard to the provisions of the development plan, so far as material to the application, to local finance considerations and to any other material considerations when dealing with applications for planning permission. Local finance considerations

are discussed further in paragraph 18 below and material considerations in paragraph 17.

15. Where there is any conflict with a policy contained in the development plan, the conflict must be resolved in favour of the policy contained in the last document to be adopted, approved or published as part of the development plan, (s38(5) Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004).

Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 provides that where, in making any determination under the planning Acts, regard is to be had to the development plan, the determination shall be made in accordance with the plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The development plan for Southwark is now the London Plan 2021 and the Southwark Plan 2022.

16. Case law has established that to be *material* the considerations must (i) relate to a planning purpose and not any ulterior purpose. A planning purpose is one that relates to the character and use of land (ii) must fairly and reasonably relate to the development permitted and (iii) must not be so unreasonable that no reasonable planning authority would have regard to them.
17. Section 143 of the Localism Act 2011 amended Section 70 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and provides that local finance considerations (such as government grants and other financial assistance such as New Homes Bonus) and monies received through Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) (including the Mayoral CIL) are a material consideration to be taken into account in the determination of planning applications in England. However, the weight to be attached to such matters remains a matter for the decision-maker.
18. Regulation 122 of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) regulations 2010, provides that “a planning obligation may only constitute a reason for granting planning permission if the obligation is:
 - a. necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms;
 - b. directly related to the development; and
 - c. fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development.

A planning obligation may only constitute a reason for granting planning permission if it complies with the above statutory tests. Planning permissions cannot be bought or sold. Benefits which provide a general benefit to the community rather than being proposed for a proper planning purpose affecting the use of the land, will not satisfy the test.

19. The obligation must also be such as a reasonable planning authority, duly appreciating its statutory duties can properly impose i.e. it must not be so unreasonable that no reasonable authority could have imposed it. Before resolving to grant planning permission subject to a legal agreement members should therefore satisfy themselves that the subject matter of the proposed agreement will meet these tests.
20. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was last updated in July 2021The NPPF is supplemented by detailed planning practice guidance (PPGs) on a number of planning topics. The NPPF is a material planning consideration in the determination of planning applications..

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Council assembly agenda 23 May 2012	Constitutional Team 160 Tooley Street London SE1 2QH	Virginia Wynn-Jones 020 7525 7055
Each planning committee item has a separate planning case file	Development Management 160 Tooley Street London SE1 2QH	Planning Department 020 7525 5403

APPENDICES

No.	Title
None	

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Chidilim Agada, Head of Constitutional Services		
Report Author	Sadia Hussain, Acting Deputy Head of Law (Property and Development)		
Version	Final		
Dated	11 February 2022		
Key Decision?	No		
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER			
Officer Title	Comments sought	Comments included	
Director of Law and Governance	Yes	Yes	
Director of Planning and Growth	No	No	
Cabinet Member	No	No	
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team			11 February 2022