

## **PLANNING COMMITTEE - 6 JULY 2021**

### **Planning Fees and Charges Supplementary Guidance Document: Clarification on how planning fees are calculated**

#### **1.0 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To provide Planning Committee with information on a document prepared by the Council which will assist in guiding applicants on how planning fees are calculated.

#### **2.0 Background Information**

- 2.1 The Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications, Deemed Applications, Requests and Site Visits) (England) Regulations 2012 sets out how the majority of fees for applications should be determined. This statutory instrument (SI) has been amended in part via The Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications, Deemed Requests and Site Visits) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2017. Primarily the later SI has increased the amount payable for planning applications. Notwithstanding these SIs setting out the detail, there are times when it is not clear such as proposals for annexes.

#### **3.0 Proposals**

- 3.1 In order to speed up the processing of applications i.e. to ensure that the correct fee is paid when submitted, as well as to ensure consistency, the document attached at Appendix 1 has been prepared. It is also hoped that the publication of this document on the Council's website might reduce the number of complaints and challenges the Planning Support Team receive in relation to fees. Alongside using our own experience and knowledge, reference has been made to other councils, where possible, to confirm that the approach set out is consistent as well as complies with known legal challenges.
- 3.2 Notwithstanding the publication of this document, it would not prevent an applicant who considers that we are applying the incorrect fee to challenge this via the validation dispute route set out within Article 12 of The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 (DMPO).

#### **4.0 Legal Implications**

- 4.1 Legislation relating to planning applications and associated fee is set out by Government within Statutory Instruments, two of which are referenced earlier. In addition, the validation of applications is set out in the DMPO. There are no further legal implications.

#### **5.0 Equalities Implications**

- 5.1 There are no equalities implications within this report.

#### **6.0 Digital Implications**

- 6.1 There are no digital implications.

## **7.0 Financial Implications**

7.1 There are minimal financial implications associated with this report. There is a possibility the amount of time disputing the fee due might be reduced.

## **8.0 Community Plan – Alignment to Objectives**

8.1 As dealing with planning applications is a statutory function, alignment to the Community Plan is limited.

## **9.0 RECOMMENDATION**

That Planning Committee note the contents of this report and Appendix 1.

Background Papers: None

For further information please contact Lisa Hughes– Business Manager – Planning Development  
Ext 5565.

Matt Lamb  
Director of Planning & Growth