



Report to Planning Committee 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023

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<b>Report Summary</b>	
<b>Report Title</b>	Public Speaking & Planning Constitution Update
<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To notify Planning Committee of a future report looking to introduce public speaking along with constitutional updates
<b>Recommendations</b>	To note the report

## **1.0 Background**

- 1.1 A full report will be provided to Planning Committee for discussion at December's meeting. In summary, the Planning Development Business Unit has been tasked with investigating allowing public speaking at Planning Committee. Initial investigations establish that the Council is one of the few in England and Wales who do not permit public speaking.
- 1.2 This report is provided to ensure Members of Planning Committee are made aware, at the earliest opportunity, of possible changes taking account of the timetable for Council meetings. Due to Constitutional requirements, it is necessary for Full Council to agree to public speaking at Planning Committee. It is therefore intended that a report will be presented to Audit & Governance (22nd November) detailing the general principles, full discussion for Planning Committee on 7<sup>th</sup> December followed by Full Council on 12th December.
- 1.3 December's Planning Committee report will include (but not be limited to) options as well as recommendations. Any change allowing public speaking also has consequential changes required to the Constitution, Planning Protocol and Statement of Community Involvement. The recommended changes to these documents will also be provided.
- 1.4 In addition, a review of the Scheme of Delegation will be undertaken and presented as well as an update regarding the processing of 'late representations' for applications that are on the Planning Committee agenda.

## **2.0 Implications**

- 2.1 The full report will consider the following implications: Data Protection, Digital and Cyber Security, Equality and Diversity, Financial, Human Rights and Legal and where appropriate reference to these implications will be made and suitable expert comment added where appropriate.

### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972. Any documents that contain confidential information or personal information about individuals should not be included in this list.