

# TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

<b>Report to:</b>	Planning Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	10 May 2016
<b>Subject:</b>	Review of Scheme for Public Participation at Planning Committee
<b>Report of:</b>	Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Public Participation at Planning Committee Review Working Group
<b>Corporate Lead:</b>	Sara Freckleton, Borough Solicitor
<b>Lead Member:</b>	Councillor P W Awford, Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committee Councillor R D East, Chairman of the Public Participation at Planning Committee Review Working Group
<b>Number of Appendices:</b>	One

## **Executive Summary:**

At its meeting on 14 April 2015, the Council resolved that a Scheme for Public Participation at Planning Committee be introduced for a one year trial period starting with the new term of the Council in May 2015 and so commenced with the Planning Committee in June. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee, at its meeting on 23 February 2016, established a Working Group to review the scheme in order to inform the Council as to whether the scheme should continue and, if so, whether any amendments needed to be made. The report of the Working Group was adopted by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 12 April 2016 and will be considered by the Council at its meeting on 17 May 2016.

## **Recommendation:**

**To NOTE the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's report to Council proposing the continuation of the Scheme for Public Participation at Planning Committee as shown at Annex A and to DETERMINE whether the Committee wishes to make any comments to the Council to be considered alongside the report.**

## **Reasons for Recommendation:**

To ensure that the Council has the opportunity to consider whether or not to confirm the arrangements for Public Participation at Planning Committee before the expiry of the trial period in June.

## **Resource Implications:**

None additional to those already in place.

## **Legal Implications:**

None directly arising from this report.

## **Risk Management Implications:**

Should the Council determine not to proceed with a scheme, there could be a reputational risk

that will require careful management.

**Performance Management Follow-up:**

Should the Council determine to introduce the scheme on a permanent basis, monitoring will continue and any issues/concerns will be reported to Members.

**Environmental Implications:**

None

**1.0 INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND**

**1.1** At its meeting on 14 April 2015, the Council resolved that a Scheme for Public Participation at Planning Committee be introduced for a one year trial period starting with the new term of the Council in May 2015 and so commenced with the Planning Committee in June.

**1.2** At its meeting on 23 February 2016, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee resolved to establish a Working Group to review the scheme. The Working Group comprised the following Members:

Councillors: Mrs G F Blackwell, R D East (Chair), D T Foyle, Mrs M A Gore, T A Spencer, Mrs P E Stokes and P D Surman.

**2.0 REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**2.1** The objective of the Working Group was to conduct an assessment of how the Scheme for Public Participation at Planning Committee had worked since its introduction at the Planning Committee meeting in June 2015 in order to inform the Council as to whether the scheme should continue and, if so, whether any amendments need to be made.

**2.2** Annex A sets out the Working Group's report which was adopted by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 12 April 2016 and will be presented to the Council on 17 May 2016.

**2.3** The Planning Committee is asked to note the report and determine if it wishes to make any comments to the Council which will be considered alongside the report when a final decision is made on this matter.

**3.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

**3.1** None.

**4.0 CONSULTATION**

**4.1** The review has involved extensive consultation with stakeholders and the Council report has been submitted to the Planning Committee for comments with the views of that Committee being reported verbally to Council.

**5.0 RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICIES/STRATEGIES**

**5.1** Scheme for Public Participation at Planning Committee

**6.0 RELEVANT GOVERNMENT POLICIES**

**6.1** The scheme supports the government's agenda for open, transparent and accountable local governance.

**7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (Human/Property)**

**7.1** Included within the report.

**8.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS (Social/Community Safety/Cultural/ Economic/ Environment)**

**8.1** None

**9.0 IMPACT UPON (Value For Money/Equalities/E-Government/Human Rights/Health And Safety)**

**9.1** None directly arising from this report.

**10.0 RELATED DECISIONS AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT FACTS**

**10.1** Council – 14 April 2015  
Overview and Scrutiny – 23 February 2016

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**Background Papers:** Scheme of Public Participation at Planning Committee

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**Appendices:** Annex A - Draft Report to Council