

Time started	11:52 am
Time ended	11:57 am

Regeneration and Economy Cabinet Member Meeting 13 March 2017

Present: Councillor Rawson

In Attendance: Paul Clarke (Head of Planning), Clare Harrison (Democratic Services)

16/16 Apologies

There were no apologies.

17/16 Late Items

There were no late items.

18/16 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

19/16 Minutes of the Meeting held on 22 November 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 November 2016 were agreed as a correct record.

20/16 Planning application fees: the Government's offer

A report of the Strategic Director of Communities and Place was considered to seek Cabinet Member agreement to an increase in planning application fees and to give the Section 151 officer delegated authority to confirm the commitment to investing in planning.

The Cabinet Member was informed that to boost local authority capacity and capability to deliver, the Government will increase nationally set planning fees. It was reported that local authorities will be able to increase fees from 20% from July 2017 if there is a commitment to reinvest the additional income in the planning department.

It was reported that the 'Fixing our broken housing market' paper published in February 2017 proposes a further increase of 20% for those authorities who are delivering the homes their communities need. It was further reported that this would also be on the understanding that the additional fee income generated would also be invested exclusively in planning services. The Government will consult further on the detail of this proposal and the timing on it being brought forward. The report sought in principal agreement for this additional fee increase. The Cabinet Member was informed that the Council is

required to respond to Government by 13 March, indicating whether or not the increased fee offer is to be accepted.

It was resolved to:

- 1) Confirm acceptance of the fee increase giving the section 151 officer delegated authority to confirm the commitment to investing in planning; and**
- 2) To approve a further increase in fees, in principle, for investment in planning services in relation to the 'Fixing our broken housing market' proposals.**

MINUTES END