

Planning and Environment Committee – 14 June 2012

Public Questions Relating to Agenda Item 7
Revisions to Delegated Powers

Mr Dix	
<u>Question 1</u> What is the percentage of applications where the planning committee members vote against officers recommendations at planning committee meetings?	<u>Response</u> Two hundred and eighty eight (288) planning applications have been presented to Planning Committees in the last twelve months. The Committees refused planning permission for thirty (30) of those applications
<u>Questions 2</u> If the threshold for objections is raised to five will officers, as a quid pro quo, widen the number of householders consulted as part of the planning application consultation process?	<u>Response</u> The current extent of consultation carried out for proposed householder developments are; neighbours adjoining the site (including neighbouring properties at the rear) and neighbouring property directly opposite if the proposed development fronts a road. This level of consultation exceeds the statutory minimum and it is not considered necessary to extend this any further.
<u>Questions 3</u> Is this recommendation about democracy or saving money and do Councillors think that this move accurately reflects the council's stated objective to become "a truly citizen-centric council"?	<u>Response</u> The recommendation reflects a considered strategy to improve decision making, committee processes and customer responsiveness.