

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION ACTION AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (SCRAIP)

Committee: Planning, Transport and Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Meeting Date: 17 December 2013

Minute No: 73

Topic: Solar Energy Advice Notes

Recommendation ⁱ	Cabinet Member ⁱⁱ	Response ⁱⁱⁱ	Timetable ^{iv}	Lead Officer ^v
<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>a) That the following paragraph be added after paragraph 3.50 on page 23 of the document, The Planning Policy Advice Note for Large Scale Solar PV Arrays:</p> <p>“Polarising light from reflective arrays is understood to have a significant negative impact on invertebrates, especially aquatic species that mistake glare from the arrays for water. Design can help to overcome these impacts. The use of agricultural sheeting and large areas of solar panelling in sensitive areas, particularly near water-bodies, should be limited, or sources of polarized light should be broken up by adding non-polarizing</p>	<p>Councillor Paine</p>	<p>AGREE.</p>	<p>January 2014</p>	<p>Darren Bridgett</p>

patterns, areas or grids that block horizontal light.”				
b) That an appendix be added to the Solar Farm Advice Notes containing helpful websites to assist Officers, Councillors and the Public (for example the Invertebrate Conservation Trust, www.buglife.org.uk)	Councillor Paine	DISAGREE. The solar energy advice notes provide a guide to the issues that should be considered when proposing such schemes. The concern about providing further links and detail on related topics is that these may become outdated. Applicants and council members and officers should be able to take advantage of the latest thinking when it becomes available, rather than strictly referring to an adopted list included as part of the solar energy advice notes.	N/A	Darren Bridgett
c) That additional wording be added to the Solar Farms Advice Notes to clarify that granting planning permission for Solar Farms <u>does not</u> change the land classification from Greenfield to Brownfield.	Councillor Paine	AGREE. With the clarification that the term 'previously developed land' will be used instead of brownfield.	January 2014	Darren Bridgett
d) That further emphasis be placed in the Local Plan on the Solar Farm Advice Notes and the requirement for the notes to be read in conjunctions with the applicable policies it relates to.	Councillor Paine	AGREE. Reference will be made in the local plan.	January/February 2014	Darren Bridgett

<p>e) That in order to ensure the local grid is capable of receiving additional inputs from Solar Farms and the energy is required, there is early engagement with energy companies for proposed Solar Farm planning applications. Further emphasis should be placed on this required in the advice notes (Electricity generating capacity , page 29).</p>	<p>Councillor Paine</p>	<p>AGREE.</p>	<p>January 2014</p>	<p>Darren Bridgett</p>
<p>f) That additional wording be added to the Solar Farm Advice Notes that clearly states that the cost and responsibility for returning land to its original use at the end of its permitted term or when usage ceases remains with the landowners. This responsibility should be made clear, in writing, as part of every planning application made.</p>	<p>Councillor Paine</p>	<p>AGREE.</p>	<p>January 2014</p>	<p>Darren Bridgett</p>

Notes on the completion of SCRAIP

ⁱ Report recommendations are listed as found in the report.

ⁱⁱ Insert in this box the Cabinet Member whose portfolio the recommendation falls within.

ⁱⁱⁱ The Officer/Cabinet Member responsible for responding to the recommendation should indicate in this box either the acceptance or rejection of the recommendation.

If the recommendation is rejected an explanation for its rejection should be provided. The 'timetable' and 'lead officer' boxes can be left blank

If the recommendation is accepted an explanation of the action to be taken to implement the recommendation should be recorded in this box. Please also complete the 'timetable' and 'lead officer' boxes.

^{iv} The Officer/Cabinet Member responsible for responding to the recommendation should indicate in this box when the action in indicated in the previous box will be implemented.

^v The Officer/Cabinet Member responsible for responding to the recommendation should indicate in this box the Officer responsible for the implementation of the action highlighted in the 'response' box.