

REPORT TO	DATE
Director of Planning and Property, in Consultation with the Chair of Planning Committee	29 April 2020



TITLE	PORTFOLIO	REPORT OF
Urgent Decisions Under Section 35 of the Council's Constitution: Lancashire County Council Planning Application – Dualling of Sections of the A582 and B5253 along with junction improvements	Planning, Regeneration and City Deal	Assistant Director of Scrutiny and Democratic Services

Is this report a key decision? (i.e. more than £100,000 or a significant impact on more than 2 Borough wards)	N/A
Is this report confidential?	No

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To demonstrate the process undertaken when considering planning applications given the current circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That the Director of Planning and Property exercises urgency powers, as set out in Standing Order 35 of the Council Procedure Rules, in consultation with the Chair of the Planning Committee to make decisions on certain planning applications.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

3. To ensure that timely decisions are made on certain planning applications.
4. To ensure the efficient continuity of decision-making.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

5. N/A

CORPORATE OUTCOMES

6. The report relates to the following corporate outcomes:

Excellence, Investment and Financial Sustainability	
Health, Wellbeing and Leisure	
Place, Homes and Environment	✓

Projects relating to People in the Corporate Plan:

Our People and Communities	
----------------------------	--

BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT

7. As of the week commencing 16 March 2020, all council meetings were cancelled as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. Alternative arrangements were put in place for any urgent decisions or those with time limitations.
8. It was agreed that decisions on planning applications constituted the use of urgency powers due to time constraints placed on them.
9. Consequently, an agenda was published on 21 April 2020, in line with normal agenda publication procedures. This agenda included one report relating to a Lancashire County Council planning application regarding the improvement of the existing A582 and B5253 in Leyland to a four-lane dual carriageway standard with a segregated combined cycle track between the Broad Oak roundabout and the Stanifield Lane/Watkin Lane roundabout (A582) and the Flensburg Way roundabout to the Longmeanygate junction (B5253).
10. On Thursday, 30 April 2020 a teleconference was held between the Director of Planning and Property (Jonathan Noad), Head of Development Management (Steven Brown), Democratic and Member Services Officer (Charlotte Lynch) and the Chair of the Planning Committee (Councillor Caleb Tomlinson) to discuss the report.
11. It was resolved during the conference call that South Ribble Borough Council would
 1. raise no objection to the proposal but seek assurances with respect to the issues raised by the council's Environmental Health department

relating to air quality; and issues relating to ecology; flood risk; the Longmeanygate roundabout; and the timing of the planned works to the Tiger Junction.

2. request that the whole scheme is implemented and not in a piecemeal fashion to ensure benefits across the whole area.

PROPOSALS (e.g. rationale, detail, finance, procurement)

12. That the Director of Planning and Property uses urgency powers, as set out in Standing Order 35 of the Council Procedure Rules, in consultation with the Chair of the Planning Committee to make decisions on certain planning applications.

CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT AND OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION

13. On 24 March 2020, an email was sent to all members to inform them of the decision-making process proposed to be undertaken with regards to Planning matters.
14. Members and residents were invited to send any representations to Democratic Services, to be forwarded onto the Director of Planning and Property and the Chair of the Planning Committee for consideration when making their decision.
15. Representations were received from three members, including the ward councillor for Moss Side. These representations referred to:
 - The need to ensure that Croston Road does not become a dual carriageway
 - An emphasis on the air quality points raised by the council's Environmental Health department
 - Ecological concerns and the need to ensure that there is no impact on flood risk as a result of the works
 - A desire to see the whole scheme come forward
 - The impact of the proposed plans to remove the Longmeanygate roundabout and replace it with a signal-controlled junction on the pre-existing issue of backed-up traffic from the Bypass to the Tiger junction, leading onto Golden Hill and towards Leyland for access to the M6.
 - The need for traffic signals to maximise the free movement of traffic to reduce traffic 'bottlenecking' when joining the bypass from Comet Road
 - The appearance of the bypass where houses have been built next to the road
16. These representations will be incorporated into South Ribble Borough Council's response to the application.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

17. Deciding on planning applications may have been deferred until such a time when the Planning Committee could be convened in full. However, this would have had implications on the time constraints of the applications and was unnecessary given the powers set out in the Council's Procedure Rules.

AIR QUALITY IMPLICATIONS

18. These were covered in the Planning Officer's report.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

19. N/A

EQUALITY & DIVERSITY IMPACT

20. N/A

COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER

21. N/A

COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

22. N/A

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Agenda for Planning Committee - 29 April 2020

Decision notice for Planning Committee - 29 April 2020

There are no appendices to this report.

Darren Cranshaw
Assistant Director of Scrutiny and Democratic Services

Report Author:	Telephone:	Date:
Charlotte Lynch (Democratic and Member Services Officer)	01772 625563	01/05/2020

Approval of Urgent Decision

I confirm that I consider this decision is one of genuine urgency in accordance with section the Council's constitution:

N/A

Councillor David Howarth
Chair of the Scrutiny Committee


Dated:

Following careful consideration and assessment of the contents of the report, I approve the recommendations contained in the report in accordance with the Council's constitution, in consultation with the Chair of the Planning Committee:



Jonathan Noad
Director of Planning and Property

Dated: 12/05/2020



Councillor Caleb Tomlinson
Chair of Planning Committee

Dated: 12.05.2020

