

Committee(s)	Dated:
Epping Forest and Commons Committee	18th January 2021
Subject: Report of Action Taken Between Meetings	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	N/A
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of: Town Clerk	For Information
Report author: Richard Holt, Town Clerk's Department	

Summary

This report advises Members of action taken by the Town Clerk since the last meeting of the Board, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman in accordance with Standing Order Nos. 41(a).

Recommendation:

- That Members note the report.

Main Report

EPPING FOREST AND COMMONS COMMITTEE- REQUEST FOR DECISION UNDER URGENCY – STANDING ORDER 41(A)

SUBJECT: Response to the London Borough of Waltham Forest Submission Local Plan (Reg 19) consultation

BACKGROUND: The London Borough of Waltham Forest's (LBWF) Submission Local Plan proposes the provision of 27,000 new homes within 3 km of Epping Forest's boundaries over the next 15 years to 2035. Of these homes, 3,000 would be within 500m of the Forest boundaries. This quantum of development is of considerable concern in relation to the protection of Epping Forest from adverse ecological impacts.

The response makes it clear that the mitigation measures are not sufficient or certain enough to conclude beyond reasonable scientific doubt that there would be no adverse effects on the integrity of Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation (SAC). The response is in line with the approved Regulation 18 response sent by the Chairman last year. This follow-up Regulation 19 response seeks to work with LBWF officers to resolve the issues around mitigation and in perpetuity protection of the Forest as required by the Habitat Regulations 2017 and to ensure The Conservators of Epping Forest discharge their responsibilities to protect the Forest.

REASON FOR URGENCY: The Submission Local Plan consultation period was from 26th October to 14th December 2020 inclusive with a deadline of 5pm, 14th December. With a 300-page Local Plan and several large, technical documents including a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) to review in that time, as well as a meeting with Natural England as statutory adviser on the SAC, the response could not be prepared for a meeting of the Committee prior to the deadline. As a result of today's deadline consideration of the report cannot wait until the January Epping Forest and Commons Committee and consideration is therefore requested under urgency.

ACTION TAKEN: The Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, approved the response to the Regulation 19 consultation on the LBWF Submission Local Plan as appended to the report of the Director of Open Spaces.

EPPING FOREST AND COMMONS COMMITTEE – REQUEST FOR URGENT AUTHORITY DECISIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 41 (a)

SUBJECT: Epping Forest and Commons Committee 16 November 2020 – Decisions arising from meeting losing quorum non-Epping Forest related business

BACKGROUND: In accordance with the Committee's Terms of Reference '*For the purpose of non-Epping Forest related business the quorum must consist of five Committee Members who must be Members of the Court of Common Council.*'. During the Committee's meeting on the 16th of November, fewer than five Court of Common Council Members were present for non-Epping Forest related business. The Committee was therefore inquorate. As a result, the Chairman suggested that the remaining items of business not relating to Epping Forest be considered under urgency in line with Standing Order 36(3).

The following items are now presented for decision under urgency procedures in the absence of a formal meeting until the new year:

- Approval to authorise external agents to support enforcement of Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO) at Burnham Beeches.
- Proposed car park tariffs –Burnham Beeches, Riddlesdown and Farthing Downs
- Non-public minutes of the previous meeting of the Epping Forest and Commons Committee held on the 7th of September 2020.

REASON FOR URGENCY: The Committee is not scheduled to meet again until 18th of January 2021, approval is therefore sought under urgency procedures in order to progress the various items in an expeditious manner.

ACTION TAKEN: That the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, approve:-

PSPO

- Delegate authority to the Director of Open Spaces so that he may enter into contractual arrangements with an external agency and authorise (named) employees of that agency to work in partnership with the Burnham Beeches Team to issue Fixed Penalty Notice for orders 1, 2, 4 and 5 on behalf of the City of London Corporation, according to the site based EP and DMS.

Proposed car park tariffs –

- Agree Option 1 for each car park as set out in paragraph 8 of the report attached to this request.

Non-public minutes

- That the non-public minutes of the Epping Forest and Commons Committee held on the 7th of September 2020 be approved as an accurate record.

Richard Holt

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