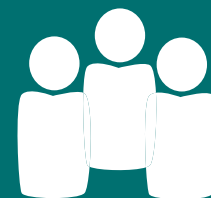


Public Speaking at Development Regulatory Committee



Cheshire County Council welcomes your interest in the planning process and has introduced public speaking at the Development Regulatory Committee (DRC).

This leaflet explains the procedure for public speaking on planning applications for minerals, waste and Cheshire County Council's own development, that are to be determined by the DRC.

It explains how you can take part in development control, and tries to answer all the questions you may have about speaking at the committee meeting.

For further information and advice on the process please contact: **the case officer** by phone: **01244 972912**, E-mail: **plancontrol@cheshire.gov.uk** or alternatively visit our website: **www.cheshire.gov.uk/Planning/PlanningControl/**

What are the basic rules?

In order to speak:

You must have submitted written representation on the relevant planning application to the County Planning Officer at least 14 days prior to the committee meeting. Contact the case officer for the date of the committee meeting or visit: **www.cheshire.gov.uk/Council/PIN/DiarySearch**

Who can speak:

Members of the public and elected representatives of parish and town councils are allowed to speak on relevant planning applications at the DRC. The procedure allows up to six people (three in support, three against), plus the applicant or their agent, to address the committee members on relevant planning applications. Each speaker will be given a maximum of three minutes. The applicant or the applicant's agent will be given the combined length of time as those speaking for or against the proposal to respond to the issues raised.

The applicant or the applicant's agent may speak in response to any public speaking, but only when other public speakers have registered a request to speak.

N.B If an agent wishes to speak on behalf of the applicant they must be the agent named on the specific planning application form.

Who cannot speak at the committee?

- District councils
- Residents associations
- Representatives of bodies and organisations consulted on the application
- Solicitors or other professional agents representing members of the public or the applicant, apart from the agent named on the specific planning application form.

What can I speak about?

You can speak about material planning considerations pertinent to any planning application submitted to Cheshire County Council that you have made written representation on, and which is on the agenda for determination at DRC.

Ensure your voice is heard! Have your say!

Are there any constraints on issues I can raise?

Your comments must be confined to material planning considerations only, and specific to the relevant planning application that you have made written representation on.

You must not make any new points which have not been previously raised in your written submission.

You must not circulate plans, photographs, or other material at the committee meeting. Any such documentation should be submitted to the County Planning Officer as part of the existing consultation arrangements.

How often may I speak at committee?

You will only be permitted to speak on any particular application once. If a proposal is deferred after public speaking has occurred on that item, you will not be given the opportunity to speak again at a subsequent committee.

If the application has been deferred before you have chance to speak, you will be given the opportunity to return to the next committee meeting. In that event, the list of registered speakers would be carried forward to the next meeting.

What if I can't turn up on the day?

NO items will be deferred to the next committee meeting if you are, for whatever reason unable to attend.

It is your responsibility to ensure you are present at the committee meeting at the time the relevant item is to be considered.

What if six people are already registered?

Opportunities to speak will come on a "first come first-served" basis. If six people are registered to speak, (three in support, three against,) further requests will be placed on a reserve list which will be referred to should a proposed speaker subsequently drop out. You may wish to consider speaking on behalf of others who share your views.

How do I register my interest to speak?

It will not be possible to speak at committee unless you have registered your wish to speak in advance by phone or email.

It is your responsibility to contact the Waste and Planning Service in order to register your wish to speak (see contact details below).

The deadline for registering to speak is 12:00 noon on the working day that precedes the committee - any interest expressed after the deadline will not be registered and you will be unable to speak.

It is not possible for you to register your intentions before the committee papers are published (at least five days prior to the committee date), nor with any officer other than the nominated officers; **Jo Kelly or Angie Wrigley**. Committee papers can be obtained at this web address:

<http://www.cheshire.gov.uk/Council/PIN/TitleKeywordSearch>

If you do not register to speak, you will not be allowed to speak at the committee meeting.

Please note: The Development Regulatory Committee takes place at County Hall, Chester and **not** at Backford Hall.



Jo Kelly/Angie Wrigley, Waste and Planning Service, Backford Hall, Backford, Chester, CH1 6PZ.

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