



# Policy Development Scrutiny Committee

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| <b>Date:</b>                 | Thursday, 8 January 2015   |
| <b>Venue:</b>                | Town Hall, St Annes  |
| <b>Committee members:</b>    | Councillor Len Davies (Vice Chairman)<br><br>Councillors Ben Aitken, Susan Ashton, David Chedd, Maxine Chew, Peter Collins, David Donaldson, Charlie Duffy, Barbara Nash, Ed Nash, Linda Nulty, Elizabeth Oades, Elaine Silverwood, Vivienne Willder |
| <b>Other Councillors</b>     | Councillor Dr Trevor Fiddler, Councillor Alan Clayton  |
| <b>Officers:</b>             | Tracy Morrison, Paul Walker, Mark Evans, Steve Smith, Paul Drinnan, Julie Glaister, Andy Foot, Katharine McDonnell   |
| <b>Members of the public</b> | There was one member of the public in attendance   |

## Public Platform

There was no speakers for public platform on this occasion.

### 1. Declarations of interest

Members were reminded of their responsibilities for declaring interests as required by the Council's Code of Conduct for Members.

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

### 2. Substitute members

The following substitutions were reported under Council procedure rule 23(c):

Councillor Peter Collins for Councillor John Davies.

Councillor Linda Nulty for Councillor Karen Henshaw.

Councillor Barbara Nash for Councillor Fabian Wilson.

### 3. Call-in Request

Fourteen members of the Council had invoked the recovery and call-in procedure to question a portfolio holder decision made on 28 November 2014 relating to the Analysis of Housing Need in Light of the Sub-National Population Projections, in particular that not enough consideration had

been given to the drop in population figures in Fylde up to 2012 and a likely further drop from 2012 onwards.

In presenting the argument for the decision to be called-in, Councillor Oades stated that the National Planning Policy Guidance stated that when setting a housing need figure, the figure should reflect the number of permissions being taken up. She argued that this was not the case. In addition the sub-national population figures showed a decrease in Fylde's population and therefore the need for housing, identified by the Strategic Housing Market Assessment was not proven.

Councillor Fiddler stated that following the release of the 2012 sub-national population figures, Turley were asked to revisit their findings for the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) in light of the new, additional evidence.

As the sub-national population figures represent only a proportion of the evidence considered when establishing the level of housing need, Turley found that their original housing need range, as described in the SHMA were still accurate.

Mr Andy Foot (Fylde Coast Housing strategy Manager) advised the committee that the 2012 sub-national population figures for Fylde, did not represent a drop in population figures, but a decrease in the rate of population increase. He clarified that the population of Fylde was still growing but at a slower rate than previously.

After an in-depth discussion, the following motion was proposed by Councillor Oades and seconded by Councillor Collins,

*"To call-in the individual cabinet member decision on the Analysis of Housing Need in Light of the 2012 Sub-National Population Projections"*

Following advice from Miss Morrison, the motion was subsequently amended by Councillor Oades and seconded by Councillor Silverwood,

*"To call-in the individual cabinet member decision on the Analysis of Housing Need in Light of the 2012 Sub-National Population Projections and ask full Council to reconsider the decision made by the Portfolio Holder"*

The motion was subject to a recorded vote and the motion was lost.

***Votes for the motion (7):*** Councillors Chedd, Chew, Collins, Duffy, Nulty, Oades and Silverwood.

***Votes against the motion (7):*** Councillors Aitken, S Ashton, L Davies, Donaldson B Nash, E Nash and Willder

***Abstentions (0)***

***Chairman's casting vote was against the motion.***

As the motion was lost, the committee therefore RESOLVED to reject the request for a call-in. The reason for the motion being lost was that the majority of the committee felt that the Portfolio Holder's decision would not change presented with the conclusions reached by Turley on the evidence presented.

The individual Cabinet Member decision on the Analysis of Housing Need in Light of the 2012 Sub-National Population Projections was therefore implemented.

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