

**GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE
22 MARCH 2011**

**TOWN CENTRE LAND DISPOSALS
Director of Corporate Services – Legal**

1 PURPOSE OF DECISION

- 1.1 This report proposes a minor amendment to the Constitution to permit the Bracknell Town Centre Regeneration Committee to approve the disposal of land required in connection with the re-development of Bracknell Town Centre.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That Section 5.5 of Part 2 of the Council’s Constitution be amended as proposed in Section 4 of this report.**

3 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

- 3.1 The Borough Solicitor is the author of this report.

Borough Treasurer

- 3.2 There are no financial implications directly arising.

Equalities Impact Assessments

- 3.3 Not relevant.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 3.4 Not relevant.

4 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 Section 5.5 of Part 2 of the Council’s Constitution (Sub-delegation of Executive functions) requires that the disposal of land over 0.5 hectares or above £500,000 be authorised at a meeting of the Executive (unless certified to be a matter of overriding urgency by both the Leader and the Chief Executive in which case authorisation may be granted by an Executive Member).

- 4.2 The Bracknell Town Centre Regeneration Committee is charged with discharging Executive functions relating to the proposed re-development of Bracknell Town Centre. The terms of reference of the Committee include the following:-

“Formulation of the Council’s property strategy within Bracknell Town Centre including dealings with existing landowners.....”

- 4.3 Notwithstanding the foregoing, proposed land disposals in excess of 0.5 hectares must be approved by the full Executive even though they may be required in connection with Town Centre re-development. In practice this means that proposed disposals are considered both by the Committee and the Executive, a process which is unnecessarily bureaucratic.
- 4.4 It is therefore proposed that the Council's Constitution be amended to provide that land disposals in excess of 0.5 hectares required in connection with the re-development of Bracknell Town Centre may be approved by the Committee.

Background Papers

None.

Contact for Further Information

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Aj/f/reports/Governance and Audit Committee – 22nd March – Town Centre Land Disposals