

# RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No. 6

meeting date: 29 NOVEMBER 2018  
 title: PRE-APPLICATION ADVICE SERVICE – FAST TRACK  
 submitted by: DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING  
 principal author: JOHN MACHOLC, HEAD OF PLANNING SERVICES

## 1 PURPOSE

1.1 To seek Member approval in relation to the implementation date of the fast track pre-application planning advice service. It is requested that Members confirm that the implementation should have been from 1 November 2018.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities

- Community Objectives – } To be a well-managed Council, providing efficient services based on identified customer need.
- Corporate Priorities – }
- Other Considerations – None.

## 2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Members will be aware that fees and charges are reviewed on an annual basis as part of the budget setting process where a proposal report was taken to the 1 November 2018 Planning and Development Committee outlining the suggested increase, which took account of the normal 2% inflation increase with other minor changes. One of the changes led to the introduction of a fast track pre-application service which would incur an additional cost of 50% of the normal pre-application charge.

2.2 Since publicity of the fast track service, it is clear that many clients wish to use the service and it has been agreed to offer the service in advance of the April date and as such I consider the fast track service and associated charge should be implemented from the date of the original report.

## 3 ISSUES

3.1 It is important that the Council seek ways of improving the pre-application service and continues to is self-evident by the request since publicity of the service, that there is a demand for a fast track service and that this should be seen as a benefit to both the Council and the users of the service.

## 4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications

- Resources – No immediate implications.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – None.
- Political – N/A.

- Reputation – No direct implications.
- Equality & Diversity – No issues.

## **5 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE**

- 5.1 Approve retrospective implementation of the fast track service from the date of 1 November 2018.

JOHN MACHOLC  
HEAD OF PLANNING SERVICES

NICOLA HOPKINS  
DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Committee report – Review of Fees and Charges – 1 November 2018.

For further information please ask for John Macholc, extension 4502.