

West Dunbartonshire Council

Planning Procedures for Councillor Involvement in the Pre-application Stage

1. A pre-application meeting will take place either at the conclusion of the Planning Committee or a Special Meeting will be set up.
2. A briefing note will be produced by planning officers. This will detail the main issues of the proposal together with the relevant development plan policies. No recommendation will be provided.
3. The developer will be offered the opportunity to make a short presentation. This allows members to hear directly from the developer and discuss issues with guidance from officers.
4. The briefing note will be circulated at least 3 working days before the relevant meeting.
5. Members will be advised by the Planning and Building Standards Manager or their representative of the purpose of the meeting and that no decision is sought and no matters should be determined.
6. The meeting will be chaired by the Planning and Building Standards Manager or their representative.
7. The meeting will be open to the public. However members of the public will not be able to make representations or participate. They will be advised that after an application has been submitted they will be entitled to make representations.
8. All Councillors will be invited to attend and they will be able to participate in the meeting.
9. Councillors should have regard to the Councillors Code of Conduct that they can provide a provisional view however any opinions or views expressed must be mindful of the overarching requirements of fairness and impartiality and of keeping an open mind.
10. Councillor should have regard to all material considerations and be prepared to change their views which they are minded towards if persuaded that they should.

11. The minutes of the meeting will be recorded and will be available publicly.