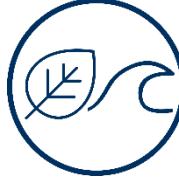


PLANNING COMMITTEE – 11 JUNE 2025**REPORT FOR DECISION****RESPONSES PROVIDED UNDER THE ‘LOCAL COUNCIL PROTOCOL’**

Our Culture	Our Decision Making	Our Environment	Our Money	Our People	Our Places	Our Resilience & Wellbeing
						
	✓					

Recommendation:

The responses made to Cornwall Council under the ‘Local Council Protocol’, as set out in this report, be noted.

Background:

In instances where a Planning Officer proposes to determine a planning application in a manner which is contrary to the consultation response provided by Penzance Council, they make contact under what is known as the ‘Local Council Protocol’, whereby Penzance Council is provided with the opportunity to either subsequently agree with their recommendation(s), ‘agree to disagree’ or request that the matter is determined by the West Sub-Area Planning Committee.

As Penzance Council is afforded only five working days in which to respond, this would make formal consideration by the Planning Committee impractical and, for this reason, at its meeting held on 20 July 2022 this Committee resolved that authority be delegated to the Democratic Services Officer to consult with Members of the Committee and provide a response in line with the prevailing view.

However, it was further resolved that this consultation would focus purely on whether the Members wished to ‘agree to disagree’ or to ‘call in’ a matter to the West-Sub Area Planning Committee. This decision was made in light of the fact that it was deemed improper for individual Members to subsequently agree with the Planning Officer, thereby overturning a formal decision which had been made democratically on an informal basis.

In instances where no responses were provided, it was resolved that the response to Cornwall Council would be that Penzance Council wished to ‘agree to disagree’.

This process has now been operating for some time but, at the meeting of this Committee held on 26 April 2023, a concern was raised that there was no publicly available record of the subsequent responses of the Council made under the Protocol, particularly with reference to the responses provided for individual Members.

At the meeting held on 17 May 2023 it was therefore agreed that an item be added to future Agendas to 'Note the Responses Provided Under the Local Council Protocol' and it is for this reason that this report is presented.

Since the last meeting of this Committee, the following responses have been provided to applications considered under the Local Council Protocol:-

PA25/02334 - Demolition of Approved Barn Conversion to form Dwelling PA23/02105 & Prior Approval Conversion to C1 Guest House PA24/04946 and Construction of Two Self Build Dwellings & Associated Works - Redundant Barns, Trevithal Farm House, Trevithal, Paul

'Penzance Council 'agrees to disagree' with the Planning Officer.'

(No responses from Councillors received.)

PA25/02385 - Construction of two Self Build Dwellings & Associated Works - 9 Penare Road, Penzance

'Penzance Council 'agrees to disagree' with the Planning Officer.'

(No responses from Councillors received.)

PA25/03024 - Replacement hardwood shopfront - Succession Group Limited, 46 Causewayhead, Penzance

'Penzance Council 'agrees to disagree' with the Planning Officer.'

(Councillor Lapin responded to state that he supported the Planning Officer's recommendation for refusal. However, this response would not comply with the adopted procedure as it would (informally) overturn a formal decision which had been made democratically.)

Subsequent to this response, the Planning Officer contacted Penzance Council to advise that revised plans had been submitted and that, in light of these, she was now minded to approve the application.