

# Decision Schedule



## Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Investment

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**TO ALL MEMBERS OF NEWPORT CITY COUNCIL**

**Decision Schedule published on 08/11/16**

The Cabinet Member took the following decision on 08/11/16. It will become effective at Noon on 16/11/16 with the exception of any particular decision(s), which is (are) the subject of a valid "call-in".

The deadline for submission of a ['Call-in' request form](#) is 4.00 pm on 15/11/16

Information relating to the 'Call-in' process can be found via [Democratic Services](#).

Reports relating to staffing issues/Confidential reports are not circulated to all members of the Council as part of the consultation/call-in processes.

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**DECISION NUMBER: R&I 11/16**

**Subject: Welsh Government Consultation: Proposed Changes to how Environmental Impact Assessment applies to Town and Country Planning**

### **Options considered/ Reason for Decision**

The Cabinet Member considered a report indicating that the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive had been amended by a 2014 Directive of the European Parliament and the European Council. This made changes to the assessment of effects of certain public and private projects on the environment. Broadly, the intention of the 2014 EIA Directive was to:

- Clarify and strengthen the screening process, in particular by specifying the content of the screening decision;
- Strengthen the quality of the Environmental Statement (ES) related elements of the EIA Directive by:
  1. Requiring it to be based on the scoping decision where there was one;
  2. Expanding the required content;
  3. Requiring it to include information on new environmental challenges (such as climate change);
- Enhance policy coherence and synergies with other EU/international law and simplify procedures by:
  1. Co-ordinating certain environmental assessments;
  2. Specifying timeframes for the various stages of the EIA process.

As the UK continued to abide by EU law before and during exit negotiations, Welsh Ministers were obliged to transpose the requirements of the Directive into national regulations.

The purpose of the consultation was to set out how the Welsh Government intended to do this and make other changes to national legislation. The consultation related to the following areas:

- Third party screening requests;
- Screening and scoping timeframes;
- Co-ordination;
- Consultation and participation in decision making process;

- Monitoring of significant effects;
- Penalties and enforcement;
- Competent experts;
- Purchase notices under Section 141 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (TCPA)

The preferred option was to respond to the Welsh Government's consultation on the basis of the comments within the report together with the responses given to the consultation questionnaire attached at Appendix 1. The proposed consultation and changes suggested had implications for the function of development management within Newport and raised a number of issues along with points to be welcomed. It was therefore important that the Council's views were taken into account in the preparation of the final version of the guidance.

### **Decision**

To respond to the Welsh Consultation paper as per the contents of the Report and answers to specific questions set out in Appendix 1.

### **Consultation**

Monitoring Officer, Head of Finance, Head of People & Business Change,

All Members were consulted and provided with an opportunity to comment when previously circulated. Any comments received and responses thereafter are set out in the Report.

**Implemented by: Head of Regeneration, Investment & Housing**  
**Implementation Timetable: Immediate**

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COUNCILLOR JOHN RICHARDS, CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND INVESTMENT

8 November 2016

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