

For publication

Decisions taken by officers under delegated powers

Meeting:	Standards and Audit Committee
Date:	28 September, 2022
Cabinet portfolio:	N/A
Directorate:	Corporate
For publication	

1.0 Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To report the decisions made by officers under delegated powers from the start of the municipal year to date.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the report and schedule of officer decisions taken under delegated powers, attached at appendix 1, be noted.

3.0 Report details

- 3.1 The Council's delegation scheme in part 3 of the Constitution defines which functions have been delegated to officers. In accordance with section 7 and 8 of The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014, decisions taken by officers under delegated powers are required to be published as soon as reasonably practicable after the decision is taken.
- 3.2 When an officer makes a decision under delegated powers, a record is placed on the Council's website which also states the reasons for the decision, alternative options considered and a record of any declared conflict of interest. The decisions are available to view by clicking here: <https://chesterfield.moderngov.co.uk/mgListOfficerDecisions.aspx?bcr=1&BAM=1>
- 3.3 After a recent internal audit of committee report processes, it was recommended that consideration be given to reporting officer decisions to committee on a regular basis for member review. In response to this recommendation, a report providing details of officer decisions will be submitted to the Standards and Audit Committee in September and April each year.

3.4 The details of officer decisions taken during the period May to early September can be found in the schedule attached at appendix 1 of the report. Any questions regarding decisions in the schedule should be directed to the officer who has taken the decision.

3.5 Officer delegated decisions on planning matters are already reported to the Planning Committee therefore they will not be included in this report.

4.0 Alternative options

4.1 The alternative option is to not report the decisions to the Standards and Audit Committee. Reporting officer decisions to this Committee strengthens the council's governance arrangements by providing further oversight of the exercise of delegated powers and promotes accurate and timely reporting of decisions by officers.

5.0 Implications for consideration – Financial and value for money

5.1 Reporting officer delegated decisions to the Standards and Audit Committee increases the transparency of decision making and allows oversight of the exercise of council functions which may involve spend.

6.0 Implications for consideration – Legal

6.1 Publication of officer decisions is a legal requirement under The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014. The requirements of the Regulations are met by publishing the officer decisions on the council's website as soon as is reasonably practicable; this report further enhances the openness of officer delegated decisions.

7.0 Implications for consideration – Human resources

7.1 Officers submit decisions to the democratic services team either by Modern.Gov or by email, the democratic services team then publish the decision record on the council's website. The administration of officer decisions is already built into the teams' resource.

8.0 Implications for consideration – Council plan

8.1 Improving the oversight of officer decisions raises awareness of council decision making and increases the accessibility of information on how the council is delivering its services.

9.0 Implications for consideration – Climate change

9.1 Whilst this report does not have a direct impact on the climate, many of the council's decisions, including officer delegated decisions, will have an impact

on climate change. This report provides an additional opportunity to engage the public in climate change issues by raising the profile of officer delegated decisions.

10.0 Implications for consideration – Equality and diversity

10.1 The schedule document at appendix 1 has been designed in an accessible format.

11.0 Implications for consideration – Risk management

11.1 The council is meeting its legal requirements by publishing officer delegated decisions onto the website as soon as is reasonably practicable. There are no risks associated with not introducing a report of the officer decisions, however the report enhances the council's current decision publishing arrangements.

Decision information

Key decision number	<i>Non-key</i>
Wards affected	All wards

Document information

Report author	
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Background documents	
These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when the report was prepared.	
<i>This must be made available to the public for up to 4 years.</i>	
Appendices to the report	
Appendix 1	Schedule of officer decisions from May to September 2022