

What is public speaking?

People can ask to speak at the Development Control Committee. The right to speak procedure allows up to five people to address the Committee on planning applications. Each speaker will be given three minutes.

What can I speak about?

You can speak to the Committee on any planning application that is being determined by them. Please note that you cannot speak in support.

Who can speak at the Committee?

In order to register to speak, the City Council must have received written representations from you on the planning application as part of the consultation process. If you prefer you may exercise your right to speak through representation by another person (e.g. planning consultant or lawyer).

What issues can I cover in my three minutes?

Speaking at Committee gives you the opportunity to present directly to the Committee the points you have made in your written representations on a planning application. For the Committee to give proper consideration to your views you must still ensure your written representation covers all your points. You are not expected to make new points when addressing the Committee.

Decisions on planning applications are limited by law to specific issues known as 'material considerations'. It is best that you keep to these issues since anything else must be ignored. The most important thing to keep in mind is that your comments must relate to the use of land and should be directed to policies contained within national or local planning documents.

Some of the most common issues include:

- location and setting
- traffic and impact on road networks
- design and appearance
- landscaping
- possible effects of pollution on land
- noise and disturbance
- effect on listed buildings and conservation areas
- hours of working.

Anything I shouldn't cover?

The Committee cannot consider:

- boundary disputes, covenants or other property rights
 - reduction in property values
 - matters dealt with by other law (e.g. licensing)
 - personal remarks about the applicant (e.g. their conduct, private affairs or how a business is run).
- Try not to repeat issues covered by previous speakers.

How do I register my interest in speaking?

You will need to contact either Karen Greig or Michelle Little who look after the Development Control Committee. Please e-mail DCRTS@carlisle.gov.uk, or phone (01228) 817112 or 817482 after the Committee schedule is published (8 days before Committee) but no later than 12(noon) on the last working day before Committee (Thursday).

You cannot register an interest ahead of the Committee schedule being published.

When you ring please be prepared to give:

- your name, postal and/or e-mail address and daytime telephone number
- the application number and proposed development to which it refers
- whether you represent anyone else

- confirmation that you are prepared to have your details passed onto other callers with similar views so that you can also speak on their behalf
- details of any special access arrangements you may require.

What if I am not one of the first to register?

We will be able to give you details of those who have registered and they may be prepared to include your views in their presentation.

How will I know when the item I am interested in is going to Committee?

Details of the dates and agendas can be found on www.carlisle.gov.uk As applications can attract thousands of letters, it is not possible for us to alert you to Committee dates. Not all planning applications are reported to the Development Control Committee for a decision. The Corporate Director (Economic Development) may decide some items under delegated powers. You cannot address the Committee on delegated matters.

If you wish to know if or when an application is going to Committee please check online at www.carlisle.gov.uk or contact the case officer.

Can I make a visual presentation at the meeting?

Any person eligible to speak at Committee who wishes to make a visual presentation must submit the presentation at least three working days before Committee (usually the preceding Tuesday), so that officers can check that there is nothing new that should be considered by the Committee. This material should be sent

to Lisa Johnston, Planning Technician, 01228 817177, email: Lisa.Johnston@carlisle.gov.uk.

Can I speak on more than one occasion?

You may speak about more than one item on the agenda, providing you have made written representations and register to do so in respect of each item. If an application is deferred, you will be given the opportunity to either speak then, or defer your right to speak until the next meeting when the application will be heard. You cannot speak more than once on the same application.

What will happen at Committee?

You should register your attendance with Karen Greig or Michelle Little by 9:45 a.m. They will note your attendance and answer any questions. The usual start time for the Committee is 10.00 a.m. The Chairman will invite you to speak for a maximum of three minutes at the appropriate time. You cannot question members, officers or other speakers, and they will not be able to question you. You are welcome to remain and listen to the rest of the debate. If possible, please bring a spare written copy of your speech to leave for the Committee Clerk.

What if I am unable to turn up on the day?

You may nominate a substitute, but will need to give their details to Karen or Michelle by 9.30 a.m. on the day of the Committee.

Special provisions relating to tree preservation orders

Proposals for the making of tree preservation orders (TPOs) often attract local interest in the particular area where the Order is being considered.

The Council's Constitution delegates the making of TPOs to the Assistant Director (Economic Development) and Assistant Director (Governance) unless there are objections, in which case it must be referred to the Development Control Committee for confirmation. Where this arises, the Council allows members of the public, who wish to speak in opposition to a TPO being made and also anyone in favour of the Order, to be given the opportunity to speak at the Committee.

Only TPOs with objections are referred to Committee. Supporters of the TPO do have the right to speak at the Committee. Arrangements for giving notice of wish to speak on a proposed TPO are set out under "How do I register my interest in speaking?"

Information about dates of and papers for meetings of the Development Control Committee are available on the Carlisle City Council website at www.carlisle.gov.uk

If you would like this document in another format, such as large print, braille, audio tape or another language, please contact:

Economic Development, Carlisle City Council,
Civic Centre, Carlisle, CA3 8QG, email:
edadmin@carlisle.gov.uk, Tel: **01228 817388**



Development Control Committee Public Speaking

