

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council

To: Planning Committee

Date: 28th October 2015

Correspondence: letter from Planning Appeals Commission

For Decision

Linkage to Corporate Plan	
Strategic Themes	Protecting and Enhancing our Environments and Assets
Lead Officer	Denise Dickson
Cost: (If applicable)	N/A

1.0 Background

1.1 The Planning Appeals Commission (PAC) has written to Council offering a brief presentation on the role and work of the Commission (Appendix 1). They emphasise that no questions may be asked in relation to particular appeal cases but general questions would be welcomed.

2.0 Details

2.1 The PAC are an independent body which receives financial and administrative support from OFMDFM. Their role is to make decisions on appeals against planning decisions and make recommendation on Public Inquiries; Public Hearings and Examinations in Public.

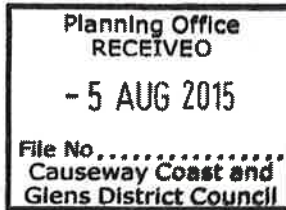
2.2 This presentation is likely to take approximately 1 hour including questions.

2.3 The Committee should consider the offer of a presentation

- **Option 1:** Decline offer of presentation from PAC.
- **Option 2:** Accept offer of presentation from PAC and for presentation to take form of a workshop.
- **Option 3:** Accept offer of presentation from PAC and presentation to be made at one of the Planning Committee meetings.

3.0 Recommendation

3.1 **IT IS RECOMMENDED** that the Planning Committee decide whether to accept the offer of presentation from PAC and if accepted whether this presentation should take place at Planning Committee meeting or in a workshop setting.



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Date: 4 August 2015

Dear Mr Jackson

The Planning Appeals Commission recently hosted a meeting with Council Heads of Planning to discuss matters of common interest in relation to the work of the Commission following the transfer of planning powers to local authorities. One of the outcomes of that meeting was a suggestion that your Council members might find a presentation on the role and work of the Commission to be beneficial.

As you are probably aware, we contributed recently to a training exercise organised by the Department of the Environment which was aimed at capacity building for local Councillors prior to the transfer of planning powers to local authorities. Now that the transfer has taken place and Councils are involved in decision making on planning applications, your Committee Members may find it helpful to hear a brief presentation from the Commission with the opportunity of a question and answer session. I must stress that the Commission will be unable to discuss current casework but I would be happy to answer questions raised by Members about appeal decisions provided advance notice is given to enable me to identify the particular appeal.

If you consider that such a presentation would be of interest to your Members, please contact Mrs Selina Quinn on (028) 9024-4710 or e-mail selina.quinn@pacni.gov.uk so that a suitable date can be arranged. If there are particular topics that Councillors would be interested in, please advise me so that I can ensure that they are covered in the presentation.

Yours sincerely



ELAINE KINGHAN
Chief Commissioner

cc Ms Denise Dickson, Head of Planning

