

**Implementation Date: 01 September 2023**

**Template for Requesting Speaking Rights at the Planning Committee**

The Protocol for the Operation of the Planning Committee provides for interested person(s) to register to speak on a planning application that is scheduled to be determined at the next meeting of the Planning Committee. This request must be received by the Planning Department no later than 10am on the Monday before the Planning Committee meeting via email account [planning@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk](mailto:planning@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk).

<b>Planning Reference</b>	LA01/2023/1247/RM
<b>Name</b>	David Worthington
<b>Contact Details</b>	Tel:  Email:
<b>Support or Objection – please tick relevant box</b>	Support  Objection

**Written representation summarising key points to be addressed and supplementary information in support of your case (minimum font size 10 and maximum length two sides of A4 page).**

Good morning members, thank you for this opportunity to speak in support of the reserved matters application for a visitor centre at Dunluce.

I am respectfully seeking one deferral to the next planning committee to allow time for planning officers to consider the required information which is the only reason for the recommendation of refusal.

The issues highlighted by the officers solely relate to the requirement to submit updated information with regards to Bats and amendments to roads drawing. They are not insurmountable.

The Bat Survey had to be completed over the season which runs from May to October 24. That has been done by RPS and has been submitted to the Council following its drafting.

The amended Roads plan will be with the Council it is expected today (Monday) at very least by time of Committee on Wednesday. It had been intended to submit it along with the Bat Survey as one pack of information but given the current developments the Bat report was lodged in advance.

These are procedural requirements as opposed to fundamental issues as planning permission has already been granted by the Committee in December 2020.

The project is a major and much needed tourism development project for Dunluce Castle. It is a significant investment and will significantly improve the tourism offer of the castle to the benefit of the borough and its burgeoning tourism economy. It is a vital cog of the borough's tourism strategy and growth. I would hope the committee would support this major project for the benefit of all.

Consequently, in light of the points and modest deferral sought we would respectfully ask the committee to approve the request.

This application is a reserved matters application for the detailed design, not for planning permission itself which was granted in December 2020.

We are confident that following review of the submitted Bat report and roads drawings as material considerations that the application will be recommended for approval.

Thank you members, I am happy to take any questions.