# BROMSGROVE DISTRCT COUNCIL

## RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN UNDER URGENCY PROCEDURES

**Subject:** Public Participation at Virtual Planning Committee meetings

**Brief Statement of Subject Matter:**

The following urgent decision is required to facilitate the continued functioning of Council business during the Covid-19 outbreak.

Under the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 No.392 (the Regs) local authority Committee meetings, including Planning Committee meetings, can now take place virtually. Public interest in the work of the Planning Committees remains. However, there is a risk that if the public are only permitted to speak verbally during the meeting, as currently stipulated in Committee Procedure Rules, this could prevent participation by members of the public who do not have internet access or have a poor broadband connection.

Therefore, the attached amended Planning Committee Procedure Rules propose that members of the public should be able to participate in virtual Planning Committee meetings either by speaking at the Committee meeting or by submitting a written statement in advance for the consideration of the Committee.

The decision invites Members to approve the attached document.

**Decision:** Council

**Date:** 18th May 2020

**RESOLVED:**

**For virtual Planning Committee meetings, the attached Planning Committee Procedure Rules in respect of public speaking should apply.**

**(The amended Planning Committee Procedure Rules will only apply to Virtual Committee meetings).**

**Grounds for Urgency**:

This decision is required urgently due to the forthcoming meeting of the Planning Committee, due to take place on 1st June 2020 and in the context of the Covid-19 outbreak.

**DECISION APPROVED BY:**

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Chief Executive – K Dicks                                Dated

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Section 151 Officer  - J. Pickering                          Dated


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Monitoring Officer – C Felton                  2 - 2           Dated


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Leader – K May                                            Dated


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Chairman, Overview & Scrutiny Board                          Dated
M Thompson

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Chairman - R Laight                                       Dated