

## **CITY COUNCIL MEETING 16<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2006**

### **Question asked by Mr J W Burrows**

*“why were planning applications 20052410, 20052342 and 20052343 approved on ‘delegated authority’ without prior reference to the Conservation Advisory Panel Meeting of Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> February- on whose Agenda these items were placed”*

### **COUNCILLOR GARRITY ‘S REPLY:**

The Government has set targets for local planning authorities such as the City Council to issue decisions on planning applications. Failure to meet those targets can result in the Government declaring it a ‘planning standards authority’, with potential intervention by the Government, reduces the funding available to the Council through the planning delivery grant and adversely affects its Comprehensive Performance Assessment score. Applications such as these are in a category where the target is 80% of decisions issued within 8 weeks.

Our normal policy is for planning applications with a conservation dimension to be reported to the Conservation Advisory Panel (CAP). The planning applications in question were received before Christmas. There was insufficient time for them to be reported to the CAP meeting in January.

The 8-week period for application 20052410, 44 Humberstone Gate, expired on the day of the next CAP meeting. The 8-week period for the other two applications, 20052342 and 20052343, both relating to 25 Market Street, expired on 8 February and 2 February respectively.

It was therefore not possible to report these applications to CAP on 15 February without missing the 8-week target. The deadline issue was not flagged up when the application was referred to the Conservation Team. Officers are looking at measures to minimise the chances of this happening again.