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Mr Terence Ewing

Dear Mr Ewing

**RE: DEPUTATION REQUESTS TO DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE AND  
PROPOSED MEETING WITH CHAIR OF DEVELOPMENT CONTROL**

I am writing to you at the request of the Chair of the Council's Development Control Committee  
Cllr Thomas Neumark.

You recently made a number of requests to make a deputation to the meeting of the Committee  
on 4<sup>th</sup> November. Councillor Neumark did not agree to those requests but felt it would be helpful  
if I were to write to you going over the Council's position again in relation to this issue. Councillor  
Neumark is also happy to meet with you together with a relevant officer to discuss further if you  
consider that would assist.

The position is as follows.

All deputations to the Committee are accepted at the Chair's discretion. The Council has  
guidance to which the Chair will have regard and this is appended at the front of the  
Development Control Committee agenda as a public document.

The salient part of the guidance is as follows.

"The Committee will only accept deputations from people or organisations who have a planning-  
related interest that could be affected directly by the matter under consideration; these are:  
requests from an objector, an applicant, the owner of premises under enforcement action, or their  
agents. The Committee will allow deputation requests either in objection or in support of the  
application or the Officers' recommendation under consideration."

Hence the trigger for allowing deputations (subject to the Chair's discretion) is that the interest of  
the person requesting the deputation's interest must be planning related and "affected directly" to  
the relevant application.

Officers' advice to the Chair is that this trigger would not apply to a representation labelled as  
coming from an organisation that is not recognised by the Council or in the wider sphere as  
representing a legitimate interest. Nor would the trigger apply simply because the person  
requesting the deputation was resident in the borough.

Rather a person should generally only be allowed to make a deputation if the approval or  
otherwise of this particular application will have a real and direct impact on them. In this regard