

# **Report to Planning Services Scrutiny Standing Panel**

**Date of meeting: 18 November 2008**

**Subject: Staffing Position within Planning Services**

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**Committee Secretary: Mark Jenkins, Democratic Services  
Assistant (01992 56 4607)**



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## **Recommendations/Decisions Required:**

**(1) To note the current update on the staffing position within Planning Services**

### **Report:**

There are currently 70 posts within Planning Services. The present situation is as follows:

#### **Assistant Directors' Posts**

At present, one Assistant Director is on sick leave, the service is awaiting an update on his medical condition. The other Assistant Director post is vacant, however, following recent interviews, the District Council was unable to appoint to this role.

#### **Maternity Leave**

Two members of staff are on maternity leave, one position has temporary cover in the Development Control team. Planning Services are advertising for Building Control surveyors, one member of staff is on maternity leave, but the post has not been back filled yet. The number of consultants within Planning Services has been reduced.

#### **Training Positions**

Within Building Control there are two vacant trainee positions, this is because staff have to be in acceptable numbers to help train people properly, and also because of economic issues. There is one trainee planner position vacant awaiting a recruitment exercise, although Planning Services does currently have a number of temporary trainees and students present.

#### **Rural Officer**

Planning Services has authority for a rural officer, a job description is currently being drawn up. However the details of the job description should not conflict or overlap with what Essex County Council and the Rural Community Council for Essex provide.