

Technical review of
planning appeal
procedures:
Consultation

DLP BRIEFING NOTE 114

Prepared by
DLP Planning Ltd

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The Government is consulting on a set of proposals to make the process faster and more transparent, improve consistency and certainty in decision taking timescales. The Government believes that the implementation of the proposals will bring cost and time benefits to all parties.

The main points on which the Government are seeking responses are:

Earlier submission and notification of appeal statements – “so interested parties see information earlier and can comment”;

Agreeing ‘common ground’ upfront – “so councils and appellants narrow the issues of dispute more openly and clearly”;

Starting hearings and inquiries sooner – “leading to quicker decisions, within agreed boundaries set for the Planning Inspectorate”;

Introducing an expedited ‘commercial appeals service’ – “so some appeals on minor commercial developments follow a shorter process with a minimum of documentation”.

Exploring opportunities for aligning other planning-related appeal processes – “so that the number of Statutory Instruments is reduced”;

Issuing one guide to planning appeal procedures – “as part of the drive to reduce planning guidance to a minimum”.

The Planning Inspectorate is also taking steps to improve its online appeal process to speed up access to information, and may consider reviewing the appeal procedure determination criteria and its bespoke timetable service.

The closing date for responses is 13 December 2012. If you require more information or would like to discuss the issues mentioned in further detail please contact:

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