

January 2010

Planning Services Newsletter helping to keep our customers informed of any news, our performance and changes that we have implemented, based on feedback from our customers.

FEEDBACK WITH OUR RESPONSES

Can you provide an instant answer regarding whether to submit a planning application for flats or a change of use to a house in multiple occupancy (HMO)?

We will give a written response if full details of the existing and proposed situation is provided in writing and shown on plans. It is recognised by the Communities and Local Government that this is not a straightforward question and in May 2009 they produced a [consultation paper](#) on Houses in Multiple Occupation and possible planning responses.



Why is your 10 days to arrange a pre application meeting at the discretion of the planners?

In the interests of economy and efficiency, planners will only arrange a pre-application meeting or site visit where a substantive response cannot be given, based on the plans and information submitted and researching the site history.

THANKS

Thank you to all agents who are now submitting their planning applications electronically. We have received 60% of our applications via the Planning Portal in the last 3 months. We would request that when you are completing the on line forms, you do not use block capital letters as we have then to retype the data.

If you do not currently submit your applications electronically or are having problems please contact us and for help and guidance.



Planning Guidance Meeting for Parish Councillors



Many thanks to all of the Parish Councillors who attended. From the feedback received we are pleased that Parish Councillors found it a worthwhile exercise and we will arrange these sessions on a regular basis.

Please follow [this link](#) to our presentation and meeting notes

PERFORMANCE

October to the end December 2009

Planning Applications Received = 287

Planning Applications Decided = 320

% of Major Applications decided in 13 weeks = 90

% of Minor Applications decided in 8 weeks = 94

% of Other Applications decided in 8 weeks = 94

% of applications decided under delegated powers 94

We are now registering 84% of valid applications within 3 working days of receipt.



NEWS

New legislation and policy, good practice and guidance December 2009

[Planning Policy Statement 4 \(PPS4\)](#) sets out the Government's policy framework for planning for sustainable economic development in urban and rural areas.

This replaces *Planning Policy Guidance 4: Industrial, Commercial Development and Small Firms (PPG4)* and *Planning Policy Guidance 5: Simplified Planning Zones (PPG5)*, *Planning Policy Statement 6: Planning for Town Centres (PPS6)* and the economic development sections of *Planning Policy Statement 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas of (PPS7)*

Planning for Town Centres: Practice guidance on need, impact and the sequential approach

This [practice guidance](#) is intended to support the implementation of town centre policies set out in *Planning Policy Statement 4: Planning for Sustainable Economic Growth (PPS4)*. It is aimed at helping those involved in preparing or reviewing need, impact and sequential site assessments.

[No News](#) from CLG on fees. We will publish details on our [website](#) as soon as received.

New on the Portal

Planning Portal new mini guide to [Extensions](#).



Latest Portal [News](#).

We hope that you found this newsletter useful, we welcome any feedback to help us improve our service.

Please advise us if you wish us to send our newsletters to another address or be removed from our mailing list.

Is there anything you would like us to include in a newsletter or put on our website? Contact Maureen Jackson development.control@charnwood.gov.uk