

NALC Enews

3 July 2018

Mainly Planning matters this week

Emails

We are moving to Office 365 this week so responses may be a little delayed. This may well mean that the "northalc.org.uk" email address will cease to work.

Please ensure that you use either of the two emails below

info@northumberlandalc.uk or

[http://stephenrickitt@northumberlandalc.uk](mailto:stephenrickitt@northumberlandalc.uk)

Cemetery Training

Northumberland County Council still has places available on the cemetery training courses in July and August.

For more information, please contact

nicola.wardle@northumberland.gov.uk

Chief Planning Officer Letters

MHCLG have issued a further letter in their series dealing with a range of planning issues. This one deals with support for neighbourhood plans

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/717060/180605_Chief_Planner_Letter_NPG_18-19_-_revised.pdf

Independent Review into Planning Appeals

MHCLG have announced a review with the aim "of reducing the time it takes to determine inquiries established to resolve disputed planning proposals, whilst ensuring quality decision making.

The review will recommend reforms by the end of the year which produce swifter decisions that will get the new homes we need built quicker. In 2017 to 2018, appeal inquiries took an average 44 weeks to complete, which delays housing and other forms of development."

More details available via

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chair-appointed-to-lead-independent-review-into-planning-appeal-inquiries>

House Building

MHCLG publish statistical information on the rate of house building.

The tables are available at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-house-building>

Government Housing Policy

On 2 July 2018, the Secretary of State gave a speech setting out out

his priorities. A copy is at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/policy-exchange-housing-speech>

At the same time a formal statement was made to Parliament and a consultation launched with the following announcement

"This consultation invites views and comments on the benefits and barriers of landlords offering longer tenancies. We are also seeking views on our proposed model for a 3 year tenancy with a 6 month break clause, and the options for implementing this. The model is designed to give tenants certainty over rents, and retains the flexibility that many desire."

The consultation closes at 11:45 pm on 26 August 2018 and details are at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/overcoming-the-barriers-to-longer-tenancies-in-the-private-rented-sector>

Planning Articles

The following articles are from various legal newsletters

1: From October 2018, planning permission for the development of land may not be granted subject to pre-commencement conditions without agreement of the applicant. Cathryn Tracey and Gary Soloman examine the changes.

http://www.localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=35817%3Apre-commencement-conditions-

[when-do-you-need-written-consent&catid=63&Itemid=31](#)

2: An ECJ ruling on Habitats Regulations Assessments is straight bananas, writes Roy Pinnock

[http://www.localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=35815%3Athe-ecj-on-habitats-regulations-assessments&catid=58&Itemid=26](#)

3: Complexity and cost are preventing councils from tackling unauthorised developments in England, the Royal Town Planning Institute has warned.

[https://localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=35794%3Abudget-cuts-hitting-ability-of-councils-to-tackle-unauthorised-development-rtpi&catid=190&Itemid=122](#)

4: Is there more that can be done to encourage timely resolution of issues that arise at planning application stage? Simon Ricketts investigates.

[http://www.localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=35819%3Along-players-time-and-money&catid=63&Itemid=31](#)

The size of new houses

Colleagues may find this article of interest. It is taken from The Guardian as sets out how room sizes have shrunk.

[https://www.theguardian.com/business/2018/apr/08/uk-living-rooms-have-shrunk-by-a-third-survey-finds](#)

Planning Application Statistics

MHCLG publish live tables for both national and local planning authorities at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-planning-application-statistics>

If you have any comments or observations, please contact

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