

CLERKS REPORT – December 2012

5a) Community Infrastructure Levy – please find draft response attached.

7b) Technical Reforms of Planning Appeals – here is a copy of information sent to me via National Association of Local Councils:

Executive Summary

On the 6 September 2012 the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government announced a series of measures to speed up planning decisions and appeals, and major infrastructure;

To further support the delivery of a reformed planning system, the Government announced a review of planning appeal procedures in the Autumn Statement of November 2011;

The Government is currently formally consulting on making the process faster and more transparent, by - ensuring earlier submission and notification of appeal statements of case; agreeing 'Common Ground' upfront; starting hearings and inquiries sooner; and introducing an expedited 'Commercial Appeals Service';

The Government proposes to improve consistency and increase certainty of decision timescales, by - Aligning other planning-related appeal processes; Issuing one guide to planning appeal procedures; and non-regulatory actions namely: *moving to a more transparent online appeal model, revising the determination criteria and agreeing bespoke timetables for more inquiries*; and

The National Association is minded to support the proposals contained in the Government's Technical Review Of Planning Appeal Procedures consultation, but will still be arguing that local councils should have the same right of appeal as developers in planning applications.

The Communities and Local Government Technical Review Of Planning Appeal Procedures consultation documents can be downloaded from .

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/2246948.pdf> .

This consultation will provide a very useful lobbying opportunity for the local councils sector to lobby Central Government on why local councils deserve the same right of appeal as developers in planning applications.

The final deadline for receipt at the Department, of consultation responses, is 13 December, 2012. The National Association welcomes responses from local councils and County Associations to inform its own submission and asks for them to be submitted to chris.borg@nalc.gov.uk by at the latest Noon on 6 December, 2012.

Recommended Circulation:	County Associations
	All Members Councils

This briefing was issued by Chris Borg, Policy and Development Manager © NALC 2012

9c) Pedestrian safety in The Square – I have been in discussions with the South West Wiltshire Area Board Manager and it seems that it may not be 'impossible' to get any funding for extra pedestrian safety measures in The Square if they were deemed to be a priority and appropriate. The situation has changed somewhat because a new scheme called a "Substantive Community Area Transport Scheme" has been set up where area boards are able to bid for substantive scheme funding when a priority scheme exceeds their available discretionary highway budget and could not be implemented in phases spread over two or three financial years. The Area Board Manager has suggested that the Parish Council may want to ask the Community Area Transport Group to spend money on authorising a pedestrian count in order to look at appropriate pedestrian safety measures for The Square. If some kind of scheme was to be identified then it would be put to the CATG for approval and funding. If the CATG were to provide some kind of funding and the Parish Council were to make a financial contribution then it can apply for 'substantive highway scheme' funding. For example, Ludwell has received approval for a pedestrian crossing scheme on the A30 and the funding has come from the Parish Council (£1,000), CATG (£10,000) and the 'substantive scheme' (£70-80,000).