

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Planning Committee 3rd October 2007
AUTHOR/S: Executive Director / Development Control Quality Manager

REQUIREMENTS OF THE NATIONAL STANDARD APPLICATION FORM AND THE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT CONTROL SERVICE

Purpose

1. To consider the implications of the revised timetable for the 1App System in relation to the Council's planning functions.

Background

2. As part of the drive to provide a quicker, more predictable and efficient planning service, the Government has decided to introduce a mandatory standard electronic application form covering planning permission and other associated consent regimes to be used by all planning authorities. The proposals emphasise interactive electronic application forms, although there will be an opportunity to use a paper-based version.
3. In August 2007 the Government published its requirements to enable the introduction of a Standard Planning Application Form (1APP) for planning permission and other associated consents to be used by all authorities.
4. This will mandate the use of 1APP when applying for planning permission. The legislative changes will now commence on Sunday 6th April 2008 rather than Monday 1st October 2007 as previously stated.
5. From 6th April 2008, the 1APP will replace all existing types of planning application forms (except minerals) and will become the only legal way of submitting a planning application.

Requirements

6. Different types of application and scale of applications will require different levels of information and supporting documentation to be submitted to render each application valid. In all cases the requirements will be specified by the local planning authority. They will comprise a national core list, that will apply in all cases, and additional items specified locally from a list provided by central government.
7. In developing the 1APP system there is a need to develop local criteria to clearly identify what needs to be submitted alongside the national standard application form. This will require consultation to be carried out with the key stakeholders to ensure that the relevant type of information is supplied with a specific type of application.
8. Under the guidance recently published a 'Local Validation List' for each application type, is required to be consulted upon for a minimum of 6 weeks and to be adopted by the local planning authority by formal resolution prior to publication both electronically and in paper format. The purpose of this report is to record the formal resolution of this Committee to consult on the proposed local validation list. To ensure even greater consistency between authorities in Cambridgeshire it is hoped that the County Authorities will be able to carry out a joint consultation exercise.

Recommendation

9. That the Committee approves the suggested timetable (as set out in **Appendix 1**) for consultation, over a 6-week period, on the Local Validation List for different application types. I shall report back following consultation with the suggested Local Validation List for adoption by this Committee in early 2008.

Background Paper:

The Validation of Planning Applications - Draft Guidance for Local Authorities August 2007.

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