

It is vital that environmental considerations are considered properly as part of the planning and development process. However, the current frameworks for doing so – which include Strategic Environmental Assessment, Sustainability Appraisal, and Environmental Impact Assessment – can lead to duplication of effort and overly-long reports which inhibit transparency and add unnecessary delays. Outside of the European Union, it is also important that we take the opportunity to strengthen protections that make the biggest difference to species, habitats and ecosystems of national importance, and that matter the most to local communities.

To succeed, a new system will need to meet several objectives:

- Processes for environmental assessment and mitigation need to be quicker and speed up decision-making and the delivery of development projects. The environmental aspects of a plan or project should be considered early in the process, and to clear timescales. National and local level data, made available to authorities, communities and applicants in digital form, should make it easier to re-use and update information and reduce the need for site-specific surveys.

- Requirements for environmental assessment and mitigation need to be simpler to understand and consolidated in one place so far as possible, so that the same impacts and opportunities do not need to be considered twice.

- Any new system will need to ensure that we take advantage of opportunities for environmental improvements while also meeting our domestic and international obligations for environmental protection. This will be the subject of a separate and more detailed consultation in the autumn.

Proposal 17: Conserving and enhancing our historic buildings and areas in the 21st century.

The planning system has played a critical role ensuring the historic buildings and areas we cherish are conserved and, where appropriate, enhanced by development. The additional statutory protections of listed building consent and conservation area status have worked well, and the National Planning Policy Framework already sets out strong protections for heritage assets where planning permission or listed building consent is needed. We want to build on this framework as we develop the new planning system. We envisage that Local Plans will clearly identify the location of internationally, nationally and locally designated heritage assets, such as World Heritage Sites and conservation areas, as well locally important features such as protected views.



We also want to ensure our historic buildings play a central part in the renewal of our cities, towns and villages. Many will need to be adapted to changing uses and to respond to new challenges, such as mitigating and adapting to climate change. We particularly want to see more historical buildings have the right energy efficiency measures to support our zero carbon objectives. Key to this will be ensuring the planning consent framework is sufficiently responsive to sympathetic changes, and timely and informed decisions are made.

We will, therefore, review and update the planning framework for listed buildings and conservation areas, to ensure their significance is conserved while allowing, where appropriate, sympathetic changes to support their continued use and address climate change. In doing so, we want to explore whether there are new and better ways of securing consent for routine works, to enable local planning authorities to concentrate on conserving and enhancing the most important historic buildings. This includes exploring whether suitably experienced architectural specialists can have earned autonomy from routine listed building consents.

Proposal 18: To complement our planning reforms, we will facilitate ambitious improvements in the energy efficiency standards for buildings to help deliver our world-leading commitment to net-zero by 2050

The planning system is only one of the tools that we need to use to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Last year we consulted on our proposals to move towards a Future Homes Standard, which was a first step towards net zero homes. From 2025, we expect new homes to produce 75-80 per cent lower CO₂ emissions compared to current levels. These homes will be 'zero carbon ready', with the ability to become fully zero carbon homes over time as the electricity grid decarbonises, without the need for further costly retrofitting work.

We welcome the Committee on Climate Change's response to the consultation and we have considered the points they raised. We will respond to the Future Homes Standard consultation in full in the autumn. As part of this, we intend to review the roadmap to the Future Homes Standard to ensure that implementation takes place to the shortest possible timeline. Our ambition is that homes built under our new planning system will not need retrofitting in the future. To work towards ensuring that all new homes are fit for a zero carbon future we will also explore options for the future of energy efficiency standards, beyond 2025.

All levels of Government have a role to play in meeting our net zero goal, and Local Authorities are rising to this challenge. Local Planning Authorities, as well as central Government, should be



accountable for the actions that they are taking, and the consultation response will look to clarify the role that they can play in setting energy efficiency standards for new build developments.

We will also want to ensure that high standards for the design, environmental performance and safety of new and refurbished buildings are monitored and enforced. As local authorities are freed from many planning obligations through our reforms, they will be able to reassign resources and focus more fully on enforcement. Ensuring that planning standards and building regulations are met, whether for new homes or for retrofitting old homes, will help to ensure that we deliver homes that are fit for the future and cheaper to run.

Pillar Three – Planning for infrastructure and connected places

Overview

New development brings with it new demand for public services and infrastructure.

Mitigating these impacts – by securing contributions from developers and capturing more land value uplift generated by planning decisions to deliver new infrastructure provision – is key for both new and existing communities. It is also central to our vision for renewal of the planning system.

At present, there are two broad routes for local planning authorities to secure developer contributions, both of which are discretionary for authorities: planning obligations and the Community Infrastructure Levy. Planning obligations – through Section 106 agreements – are negotiated with developers, and in 2018/19 were worth a total of £7bn, of which £4.7bn was in the form of affordable housing contributions – supporting delivery of 30,000 affordable homes. In contrast, the Community Infrastructure Levy is a fixed charge, levied on the area (floorspace) of new development, and secures infrastructure that addresses the cumulative impact of development in an area. The Community Infrastructure Levy is not mandatory for local planning authorities, and around half of authorities currently charge it. Levy rates are discretionary, established by assessments of infrastructure need and viability.

There are several problems with this system. Planning obligations are broadly considered to be uncertain and opaque, as they are subject to negotiation and renegotiation based in part on the developer's assessment of viability. This creates uncertainty for communities about the level of affordable housing and infrastructure that development will bring. In turn, this brings cost, delay and inconsistency into the process. Over 80 per cent of local authorities agree that such negotiations create delay, despite the planning application being acceptable in principle.¹⁵ This acts as a barrier to entry to the market, and major developers are better placed to devote the legal and valuation resource needed to negotiate

successfully. This unevenness is a problem too for local authorities, with significant variation in skill and negotiation in negotiating viability across authorities.

The Community Infrastructure Levy addresses many of these problems as it is a flat-rate and non-negotiable tariff, and developers and local authorities have, in general, welcomed the certainty it brings. However, as payment is set at the point planning permission is granted, and payment due once development commences, it is inflexible in the face of changing market conditions. Payment before a single home has been built increases the developer's risk and cost of finance, creating cashflow challenges which are more acute for smaller developers. And despite early payment, many local authorities have been slow to spend Community Infrastructure Levy revenue on early infrastructure delivery, reflecting factors including indecision, competing spending priorities, and uncertainty over other infrastructure funding streams.

Securing necessary infrastructure and affordable housing alongside new development is central to our vision for the planning system. We want to bring forward reforms to make sure that developer contributions are:

- responsive to local needs, to ensure a fairer contribution from developers for local communities so that the right infrastructure and affordable housing is delivered;
- transparent, so it is clear to existing and new residents what new infrastructure will accompany development;
- consistent and simplified, to remove unnecessary delay and support competition in the housebuilding industry;
- buoyant, so that when prices go up the benefits are shared fairly between developers and the local community, and when prices go down there is no need to re-negotiate agreements.



The Government could also seek to use developer contributions to capture a greater proportion of the land value uplift that occurs through the grant of planning permission, and use this to enhance infrastructure delivery. There are a range of estimates for the amount of land value uplift currently captured, from 25 to 50 per cent.¹⁹ The value captured will depend on a range of factors including the development value, the existing use value of the land, and the relevant tax structure – for instance, whether capital gains tax applies to the land sale. Increasing value capture could be an important source of infrastructure funding but would need to be balanced against risks to development viability.

Question

21. When new development happens in your area, what is your priority for what comes with it?
[More affordable housing / More or better infrastructure (such as transport, schools, health provision) / Design of new buildings / More shops and/or employment space / Green space / Don't know / Other – please specify]

Proposals

A CONSOLIDATED INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY

We propose that the existing parallel regimes for securing developer contributions are replaced with a new, consolidated 'Infrastructure Levy'.

Proposal 19: The Community Infrastructure Levy should be reformed to be charged as a fixed proportion of the development value above a threshold, with a mandatory nationally-set rate or rates and the current system of planning obligations abolished.

We believe that the current system of planning obligations under Section 106 should be consolidated under a reformed, extended 'Infrastructure Levy'.

This would be based upon a flat-rate, value-based charge, set nationally, at either a single rate, or at area-specific rates. This would address issues in the current system as it would:

- be charged on the final value of a development (or to an assessment of the sales value where the development is not sold, e.g. for homes built for the rental market), based on the applicable rate at the point planning permission is granted;
- be levied at point of occupation, with prevention of occupation being a potential sanction for non-payment;
- include a value-based minimum threshold below which the levy is not charged, to prevent low viability development becoming unviable, reflecting average build costs per square metre, with a small, fixed allowance for land costs. Where the value of development is below the threshold, no Levy would be charged. Where the value of development is

above the threshold, the Levy would only be charged on the proportion of the value that exceeded the threshold; and

- provide greater certainty for communities and developers about what the level of developer contributions are expected alongside new development.

The single rate, or area-specific rates, would be set nationally. It would aim to increase revenue levels nationally when compared to the current system. Revenues would continue to be collected and spent locally.

As a value-based charge across all use classes, we believe it would be both more effective at capturing increases in value and would be more sensitive to economic downturns. It would reduce risk for developers, and would reduce cashflow difficulties, particularly for SME developers.

In areas where land value uplift is insufficient to support significant levels of land value capture, some or all of the value generated by the development would be below the threshold, and so not subject to the levy. In higher value areas, a much greater proportion of the development value would be above the exempt amount, and subject to the levy.

To better support the timely delivery of infrastructure, we would also allow local authorities to borrow against Infrastructure Levy revenues so that they could forward fund infrastructure. Enabling borrowing combined with a shift to levying developer contributions on completion, would incentivise local authorities to deliver enabling infrastructure, in turn helping to ensure development can be completed faster. As with all volatile borrowing streams, local authorities should assure themselves that this borrowing is affordable and suitable.

Under this approach the London Mayoral Community Infrastructure Levy, and similar strategic Community Infrastructure Levies in combined authorities, could be retained as part of the Infrastructure Levy to support the funding of strategic infrastructure.

To better support the timely delivery of infrastructure, we would also allow local authorities to borrow against Infrastructure Levy revenues so that they could forward fund infrastructure.

In bringing forward the reformed Infrastructure Levy, we will need to consider its scope. We will also consider the impact of this change on areas with lower land values.

Alternative option: The Infrastructure Levy could remain optional and would be set by individual local authorities. However, as planning obligations would be consolidated into the single Infrastructure Levy, we anticipate that there would be a significantly greater uptake. The aim of the *de minimis* threshold would be to remove the viability risk, simplifying the rate setting process, as this would remove the need for multiple charging zones within an authority. It would be possible to simplify further – for instance, for the Government to set parameters. There would be a stronger incentive for local authorities to introduce the new Levy, as they would not be able to use Section 106 planning obligations to secure infrastructure or affordable housing. In addition, some local authorities have chosen not to introduce the Community Infrastructure Levy out of concern for the impact on viability of development. Because the new Infrastructure Levy would only be charged above a set threshold, these impacts would be mitigated.

This option would address issues around transparency, responsiveness to local needs and consistency. However, the Government's levers over levels of land value capture would be less strong, with decisions about levy rates being taken at the local level.

Alternatively, the national rate approach could be taken, but with the aim of capturing more land value than currently, to better support the delivery of infrastructure. While developers would be liable for paying the levy, the cost of this would be capitalised into land value. This would ensure that the landowners who benefit from increases in value as a result of the grant of planning permission contribute to the infrastructure and affordable housing that makes development acceptable.

Questions

- 22(a). Should the Government replace the Community Infrastructure Levy and Section 106 planning obligations with a new consolidated Infrastructure Levy, which is charged as a fixed proportion of development value above a set threshold?
[Yes / No / Not sure. Please provide supporting statement.]
- 22(b). Should the Infrastructure Levy rates be set nationally at a single rate, set nationally at an area-specific rate, or set locally?
[Nationally at a single rate / Nationally at an area-specific rate / Locally]
- 22(c). Should the Infrastructure Levy aim to capture the same amount of value overall, or more value, to support greater investment in infrastructure, affordable housing and local communities?
[Same amount overall / More value / Less value / Not sure. Please provide supporting statement.]
- 22(d). Should we allow local authorities to borrow against the Infrastructure Levy, to support infrastructure delivery in their area?
[Yes / No / Not sure. Please provide supporting statement.]



Proposal 20: The scope of the Infrastructure Levy could be extended to capture changes of use through permitted development rights

In making this change to developer contributions for new development, the scope of the Infrastructure Levy would be extended to better capture changes of use which require planning permission, even where there is no additional floorspace, and for some permitted development rights including office to residential conversions and new demolition and rebuild permitted development rights. This approach would increase the levy base, and would allow these developments to better contribute to infrastructure delivery and making development acceptable to the community. However, we will maintain the exemption of self and custom-build development from the Infrastructure Levy.

Question

21. Do you agree that the scope of the reformed Infrastructure Levy should capture changes of use through permitted development rights?
 (Y/N) No. Just say. (By use provider supporting groups etc)

Proposal 21: The reformed Infrastructure Levy should deliver affordable housing provision

Developer contributions currently deliver around half of all affordable housing, most of which is delivered on-site. It is important that the reformed approach will continue to deliver on-site affordable housing at least at present levels.

Affordable housing provision is currently secured by local authorities via Section 106, but the Community Infrastructure Levy cannot be spent on it. With Section 106 planning obligations removed, we propose that under the Infrastructure Levy, authorities would be able to use funds raised through the levy to secure affordable housing.

This could be secured through in-kind delivery on-site, which could be made mandatory where an authority has a requirement, capability and wishes to do so. Local authorities would have a means to specify the forms and tenures of the on-site provision, working with a nominated affordable housing provider. Under this approach, a provider of affordable housing could purchase the dwelling at a discount from market rate, as now. However, rather than the discount being secured through Section 106 planning obligations, it would instead be considered as in-kind delivery of the Infrastructure Levy. In effect, the difference between the price at which the unit was sold to the provider and the market price would be offset from the final cash liability to the Levy. This would create an incentive for the developer to build on-site affordable housing where appropriate.¹⁶ First Homes, which are sold by the developer direct to the customer at a discount to market price, would offset the discount against the cash liability.



Under this approach we recognise that some risk is transferring to the local planning authority, and that we would need to mitigate that risk in order to maintain existing levels of on-site affordable housing delivery. We believe that this risk can be fully addressed through policy design. In particular, in the event of a market fall, we could allow local planning authorities to 'flip' a proportion of units back to market units which the developer can sell, if Levy liabilities are insufficient to cover the value secured through in-kind contributions. Alternatively, we could require that if the value secured through in-kind units is greater than the final levy liability, then the developer has no right to reclaim overpayments. Government could provide standardised agreements, to codify how risk sharing would work in this way.

We would also need to ensure the developer was incentivised to deliver high build and design quality for their in-kind affordable homes. Currently, if Section 106 homes are not of sufficient quality, developers may be unable to sell it to a provider, or have to reduce the price. To ensure developers are not rewarded for low-standard homes under the Levy, local authorities could have an option to revert back to cash contributions if no provider was willing to buy the homes due to their poor quality. It is important that any approach taken maintains the quality of affordable housing provision as well as overarching volumes, and incentivises early engagement between providers of affordable housing and developers. Local authorities could also accept Infrastructure Levy payments in the form of land within or adjacent to a site. Through borrowing against further Infrastructure Levy receipts, other sources of funding, or in partnership with affordable housing providers, they could then build affordable homes, enabling delivery at pace.

Alternative option: We could seek to introduce further requirements around the delivery of affordable housing. To do this we would create a 'first refusal' right for local authorities or any affordable housing provider acting on their behalf to buy up to a set proportion of on-site units (on a square metre basis) at a discounted price, broadly equivalent to build costs. The

proportion would be set nationally, and the developer would have discretion over which units were sold in this way. A threshold would be set for smaller sites, below which on-site delivery was not required, and cash payment could be made in lieu. Where on-site units were purchased, these could be used for affordable housing, or sold on (or back to the developer) to raise money to purchase affordable housing elsewhere. The local authority could use Infrastructure Levy funds, or other funds, in order to purchase units.

Questions

- 24.a). Do you agree that we should aim to secure at least the same amount of affordable housing under the Infrastructure Levy, and as much on-site affordable provision, as at present?
[Yes / No / Not sure. Please provide supporting statement.]
- 24.b). Should affordable housing be secured as in-kind payment towards the Infrastructure Levy, or as a 'right to purchase' at discounted rates for local authorities?
[Yes / No / Not sure. Please provide supporting statement.]
- 24.c). If an in-kind delivery approach is taken, should we mitigate against local authority overpayment risk?
[Yes / No / Not sure. Please provide supporting statement.]
- 24.d). If an in-kind delivery approach is taken, are there additional steps that would need to be taken to support affordable housing quality?
[Yes / No / Not sure. Please provide supporting statement.]

Proposal 23: More freedom could be given to local authorities over how they spend the Infrastructure Levy

It is important that there is a strong link between where development occurs and where funding is spent. Currently, the Neighbourhood Share of the Community Infrastructure Levy ensures that up to 25 per cent of the levy is spent on priorities in the area that development occurred, with funding transferred to parish councils in parished areas. There are fewer restrictions on how this funding is spent, and we believe it provides an important incentive to local communities to allow development in their area. We therefore propose that under this approach the Neighbourhood Share would be kept, and we would be interested in ways to enhance community engagement around how these funds are used, with scope for digital innovation to promote engagement.

There is scope for even more flexibility around spending. We could also increase local authority flexibility, allowing them to spend receipts on their policy priorities, once core infrastructure obligations have been met. In addition to the provision of local infrastructure, including parks, open spaces, street trees and delivery or enhancement of community facilities, this could include improving services or reducing council tax. The balance of affordable housing and infrastructure may vary depending on a local authority's circumstances, but under this approach it may be necessary to consider ring-fencing a certain amount of Levy funding for affordable housing to ensure that affordable housing continues to be delivered on-site at current levels (or higher). There would also be opportunities to enhance digital engagement with communities as part of decision making around spending priorities. Alternatively, the permitted uses of the Levy could remain focused on infrastructure and affordable housing, as they are broadly are at present. Local authorities would continue to identify the right balance between these to meet local needs, as they do at present.

Questions

- 25. Should local authorities have fewer restrictions over how they spend the Infrastructure Levy?
(Yes / No / Not sure. Please provide supporting statement.)
- 25(a). If yes, should an affordable housing ring-fence be developed?
(Yes / No / Not sure. Please provide supporting statement.)

It is important that there is a strong link between where development occurs and where funding is spent.

Delivering change

How we move into the new system

It is important that in bringing forward reform to improve the operation of the planning system, we do not cause delays to development that is currently planned.

Subject to responses to this consultation, we will consider the arrangements for implementing these changes to minimise disruption to existing plans and development proposals and ensure a smooth transition. This includes making sure that recently approved plans, existing permissions and any associated planning obligations can continue to be implemented as intended; and that there are clear transitional arrangements for bringing forward new plans and development proposals as the new system begins to be implemented.

Nevertheless, we do want to make rapid progress toward this new planning system. We are already introducing a new Use Class Order, with associated permitted development rights, to make easier for businesses to change use without the need for planning permission to support our high streets and town centres bounce back following the COVID-19 pandemic. We have also created new permitted development rights to enable more new homes to be built on top of buildings and the demolition and rebuild of vacant buildings for housing, without the need for usual planning permission.

Today, we are also publishing a consultation on four shorter-term measures which will improve the immediate effectiveness of the current system:

- changes to the standard method for assessing local housing need, which as well as being a proposal to change guidance in the short term has relevance to proposals for land supply reforms set out in this paper;

- securing of First Homes, sold at a discount to market price for first time buyers, including key workers, through developer contributions in the short term until the transition to a new system;
- temporarily lifting the small sites threshold, below which developers do not need to contribute to affordable housing, to up to 40 or 50 units;
- extending the current Permission in Principle to major development so landowners and developers now have a fast route to secure the principle of development for housing on sites without having to work up detailed plans first;

This consultation document can be found at:
www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-the-current-planning-system .

To provide better information to local communities, to promote competition amongst developers, and to assist SMEs and new entrants to the sector, we will consult on options for improving the data held on contractual arrangements used to control land. This can be found at: www.gov.uk/government/consultations/transparency-and-competition-a-call-for-evidence-on-data-on-land-control .

Public assets and investment

As we fix our planning system, we also want to make better use of surplus land owned by the public sector, and to level up public investment in development to support renewal of towns and cities across the country, giving power to communities to shape its future use and bringing investment to places across the country. We will do this by:

- Ensuring investment in new public buildings supports renewal and regeneration of town and city centres across the country. The Government Estate Strategy (GES), which was

published in 2018, sets out how we will use the estate as an enabler to deliver better outcomes for the public, across all four nations of the UK. As part of this, the Government Hubs programme aims to transform the Government's office estate by accommodating departmental workforces in shared regional hubs and supporting office estate – creating strategic hubs across the UK in major city centre conurbations and in secondary towns and cities. We will continue to look at how the Government can ensure investment in its estate delivers wider benefits for places across the country.

- Exploring how disposal of publicly-owned land can support the SME and self-build sectors. As announced by the Prime Minister last month in 'A New Deal for Britain', the Government will produce a new cross-government strategy on how land owned by the Government can be managed and released more effectively and put to better use. As part of this review, we will explore how we can support SME housebuilders, community land trusts and self-builders to identify public land opportunities.

Supporting innovation in delivery

As we bring forward planning reform, we also want to ensure we have in place the right delivery mechanisms, including development corporations. A good example that we are already progressing is development at Toton in the East Midlands, where we have announced our intention to support the establishment of a development corporation to maximise the area's international links and create tens of thousands of new homes and jobs. We want to see more schemes of this kind, backed by modern delivery models, around the country.

That is why we consulted at the end of last year on changes to the legislative framework for development corporations. This includes exploring whether we need to make changes to

enable more flexible development corporation models that can drive housing, regeneration and employment. We are currently considering responses to the consultation and will respond to it shortly.



Making sure the system has the right people and skills

Local planning authorities remain at the heart of our ambitious reforms. We want to free up planners to focus on what they were trained for – creating great communities through world-class civic engagement and proactive plan-making, rather than reactive development management.

We recognise that local planning departments need to have the right people with the right skills, as well as the necessary resources, to implement these reforms successfully. Many local authorities are delivering great services, and through the COVID-19 pandemic have been able to transform the way they work to a more digital and modern service. We look forward to seeing evaluations and lessons learned so that we can use this as a catalyst for modernisation of our planning services.

But we know that local authority planning departments are under great pressure – with spending per person on planning and development down 60 per cent and shortages of specialist skills such as design and ecology.¹⁷ And the technology in local planning authorities to support modern services is not there – whilst PropTech firms are developing new apps and other digital services that enable communities to engage with development in new ways, in few places can this be captured by the local authority. Instead, documents are submitted electronically, but not in the way of modern digital services such as those now supporting tax services.

The preparation of reformed Local Plans, development of new design codes, a major overhaul of development contributions, and a new streamlined approach to decision-making will have profound implications for how local planning authorities operate in future. They will need to have sufficient leadership, a strong cadre of professional planners and good access to technical expertise, as well as transformed systems which utilise the latest digital technology. But equally importantly, there must be a fundamental cultural change on how planning

departments operate. They need to be more outward looking, proactively engaging with developers, businesses, architects and designers, as well as a wider cross-section of their local communities.

In particular, we envisage the focus of local planning authorities shifting towards the development of clear Local Plans and high-quality design codes which set the parameters for development – rather than making discretionary decisions based on vague policies. In doing so, there is a real opportunity for planners to redesign their individual roles and change perceptions of their profession. We will consider how best to support the planning profession in making this adjustment, in a way which supports culture change, improves recruitment and changes perceptions of planning.

In addition, other key players, including the Planning Inspectorate and statutory consultees, will have to transform the way they operate in response to these reforms, given their critical role supporting the preparation of Local Plans and decision-making. They too will need to be more responsive and outward looking, and have the necessary skills and resources to undertake their new roles.

We understand why many participants – not just local authorities, but statutory consultees and the Planning Inspectorate – are risk averse. Judicial review is expensive, and to lose a judicial review in the courts is bad for the reputation of either. And judicial reviews can be precedent setting, establishing a new interpretation of the law. We think the proposals set out in the document should remove the risk of judicial review substantially. Most judicial reviews are about imprecise and unclearly worded policies or law. Our plans for an overhaul of planning law to create simple and clear processes and for plans that set out clear requirements and standards will substantially remove the scope for ambiguity and therefore challenge.

The cost of operating the new planning system should be principally funded by the beneficiaries of planning gain – landowners and developers – rather than the national or local taxpayer.

Proposal 23: As we develop our final proposals for this new planning system, we will develop a comprehensive resources and skills strategy for the planning sector to support the implementation of our reforms. In doing so, we propose this strategy will be developed including the following key elements:

The cost of operating the new planning system should be principally funded by the beneficiaries of planning gain – landowners and developers – rather than the national or local taxpayer. Currently, the cost of development management activities by local planning authorities is to a large extent covered by planning fees, although the current fee structure means the cost of processing some applications can be significantly greater than their individual fee. However, the cost of preparing Local Plans and enforcement activities is now largely funded from the local planning authority's own resources.

Planning fees should continue to be set on a national basis and cover at least the full cost of processing the application type based on clear national benchmarking. This should involve the greater regulation of discretionary pre-application charging to ensure it is fair and proportionate.

If a new approach to development contributions is implemented, a small proportion of the income should be earmarked to local planning authorities to cover their overall planning costs, including the preparation and review of Local Plans and design codes and enforcement activities.

Reform should be accompanied by a deep dive regulatory review to identify and eliminate outdated regulations which increase costs for local planning authorities, especially to the decision-making process.

Some local planning activities should still be funded through general taxation given the public benefits from good planning, and time limited funding will be made available by the Government in line with the new burdens principle to support local planning authorities to transition to the new planning system as part of the next Spending Review.

Local planning authorities should be subject to a new performance framework which ensures continuous improvement across all planning functions from Local Plans to decision-making and enforcement – and enables early intervention if problems emerge with individual authorities.

The Planning Inspectorate and statutory consultees should become more self-financing through new charging mechanisms and be subject to new performance targets to improve their performance.

Workforce planning and skills development, including training, should be principally for the local government sector to lead on, working closely with Government, statutory consultees, planning consultancies and universities.

Reform should be accompanied by a significant enhancement in digital and geospatial capability and capacity across the planning sector to support high-quality new digital Local Plans and digitally enabled decision-making. We think the English planning profession has the potential to become an international world-leader in digital planning, capable of exporting world class planning services around the world.

In developing this strategy, we recognise different local planning authorities face different pressures and issues, and it will be important to develop a resourcing and skills framework which works for all authorities across the country. We will work with local planning authorities, professional bodies and the wider planning sector to ensure views about implementation are considered. We would particularly want to see innovative solutions which can transform practice

At the same time, we also want to enable a thriving PropTech sector. By unlocking the data that underpins the planning system so that it is open, we want to enable the PropTech sector to transform housing, land, and planning industries with innovative products that are interoperable with others. This will make use of process improvement insights and data to offer services for many different clients, including for improved public consultation opportunities for citizens and developers to identify sites on which to build, helping to reduce investment risks. We will continue to engage with the innovators and the UK PropTech sector through a Minister-led PropTech Innovation Council (announced in November 2019) to make the most of innovative new approaches to meet public policy objectives, help this emerging sector to boost productivity in the wider planning and housing sectors, and ensure government data and decisions support the sector's growth in the UK and internationally.

Stronger enforcement

As part of the implementation of our planning reforms, we want to see local planning authorities place more emphasis on the enforcement of planning standards and decisions. Planning enforcement activity is too often seen as the 'Cinderella' function of local planning services. But local communities want new development to meet required design and environmental standards, and robust enforcement action to be taken if planning rules are broken. As local



planning authorities are freed from many planning requirements through our reforms, they will be able to focus more on enforcement across the planning system.

Proposal 24: We will seek to strengthen enforcement powers and sanctions

We will review and strengthen the existing planning enforcement powers and sanctions available to local planning authorities to ensure they support the new planning system. We will introduce more powers to address intentional unauthorised development, consider higher fines, and look to ways of supporting more enforcement activity.

This will include implementing our commitments from the Government's response to the consultation on unauthorised development and encampments, to strengthen national planning policy against intentional unauthorised development and ensure temporary stop notices are more effective. And will also consider what more can be done in cases where the Environment Agency's flood risk advice on planning applications is not followed.

We will seek to strengthen enforcement powers and sanctions



What happens next

Implementing reform

The proposals in this paper apply to England only. Planning is devolved in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Subject to the outcome of this consultation, we will seek to bring forward legislation and policy changes to implement our reforms. This consultation sets out our vision for the basis of a reformed planning system. We have not comprehensively covered every aspect of the system, and the detail of the proposals will need further development pending the outcome of this consultation. We will continue to develop the proposals as we gather feedback and views on them.

Our proposals for Local Plan reform, changes to developer contributions and development management would require primary legislation followed by secondary legislation. The proposals allow 30 months for new Local Plans to be in place so a new planning framework, so we would expect new Local Plans to be in place by the end of the Parliament.

We would implement any policy changes, including to set a new housing requirement, by updating the National Planning Policy Framework in line with the new legislation.

Responding to this consultation

EQUALITIES IMPACTS

We want all communities, families, groups and individuals to have a say in the future of the places where they live. For too long, planning and planning decisions have felt out of reach from too many people. The Government has heard how the combination of technical jargon

and traditional models of community engagement discourages people from having their say on decisions. At the same time, it disproportionately encourages engagement from people from a narrow set of demographic groups – typically older, better off and white. We believe that the voices of those who may benefit most from new development are therefore often the quietest in the planning process.

We are committed to delivering wider engagement in planning, increasing the supply of land for development, and supporting inclusive and mixed communities. Some authorities and developers are pioneering new models of engagement that broaden this to different groups. We hope that the reforms set out in this consultation – to make the system more accessible, accountable, digital and transparent – will increase access and engagement for all groups up and down the country.

We would welcome views on the potential impact on the proposals raised in this consultation on people with protected characteristics and whether further reforms could broaden access to planning for people in diverse groups.

Question

26. Do you have any views on the potential impact of the proposals raised in this consultation on people with protected characteristics as defined in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010?



About this consultation

This consultation document and consultation process have been planned to adhere to the Consultation Principles issued by the Cabinet Office.

Representative groups are asked to give a summary of the people and organisations they represent, and where relevant who else they have consulted in reaching their conclusions when they respond.

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal data, may be published or disclosed in accordance with the access to information regimes (these are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA), the General Data Protection Regulation, and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

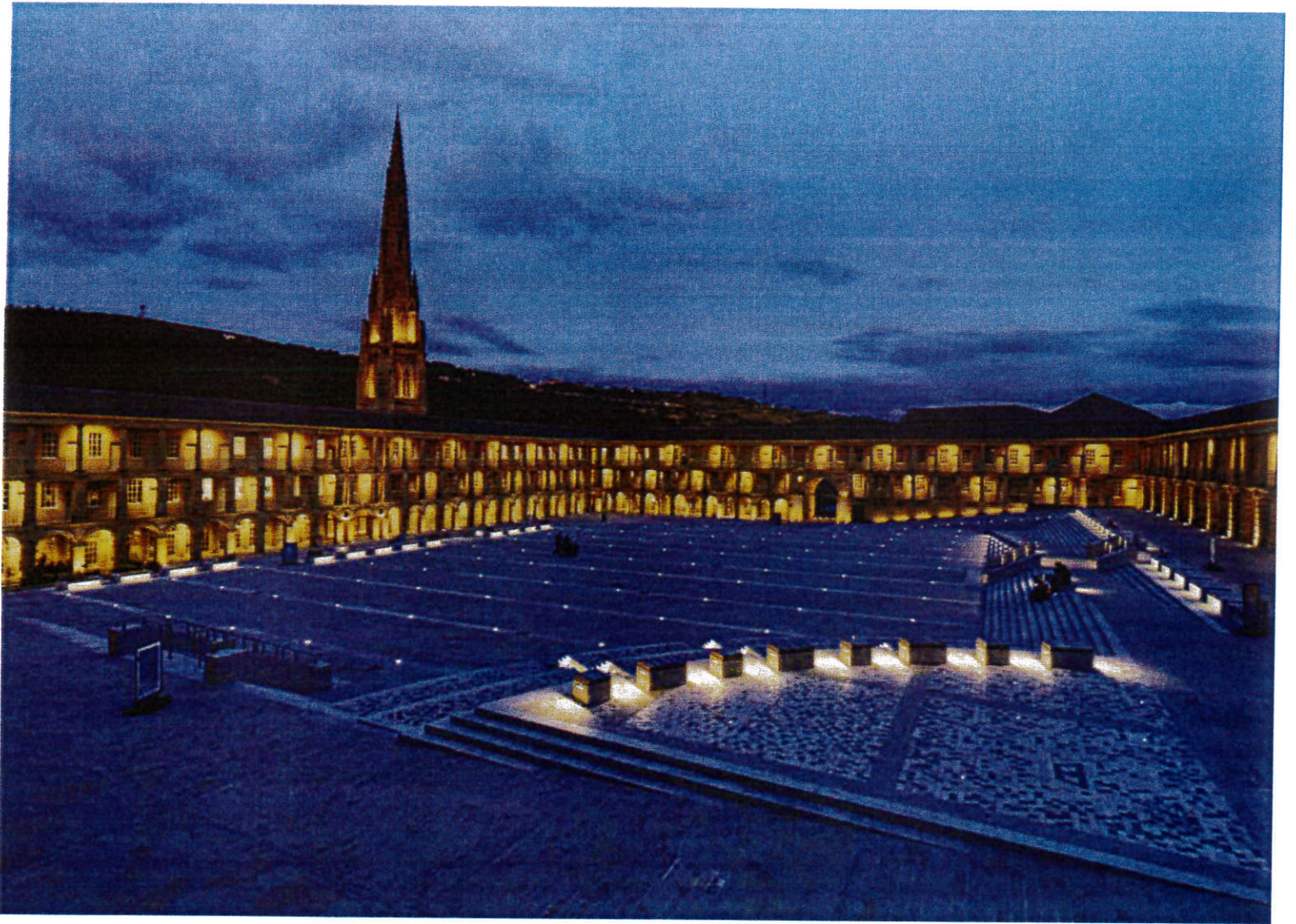
If you want the information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, as a public authority, the Department is bound by the Freedom of Information Act and may therefore be obliged to disclose all or some of the information you provide. In view of this it would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. If we receive a request for disclosure of the information we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Department.

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government will process your personal data in accordance with the law and in the majority of circumstances this will mean that your personal data will not be disclosed to third parties. A full privacy notice is included at Annex A.

Individual responses will not be acknowledged unless specifically requested.

Your opinions are valuable to us. Thank you for taking the time to read this document and respond.

Are you satisfied that this consultation has followed the Consultation Principles? If not or you have any other observations about how we can improve the process please contact us via the [complaints procedure](#).



Annex A

The following is to explain your rights and give you the information you are entitled to under the data protection legislation.

These rights apply to your personal data (your name address and anything that could be used to identify you personally) not the content of your response to the consultation.

1. The identity of the data controller and contact details of our Data Protection Officer: The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) is the data controller. The Data Protection Officer can be contacted at dataprotection@communities.gsi.gov.uk

2. Why we are collecting your personal data:

Your personal data is being collected as an essential part of the consultation process, so that we can contact you regarding your response and for statistical purposes. We may also use it to contact you about related matters.

3. Our legal basis for processing your personal data:

Article 6(1)(e) of the General Data Protection Regulation 2016 (GDPR) provides that processing shall be lawful if processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller. Section 8(d) of the Data Protection Act 2018 further provides that this shall include processing of personal data that is necessary for the exercise of a function of the Crown, a Minister of the Crown or a government department.

The processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. The task is consulting on departmental policies or proposals or obtaining opinion data in order to develop good effective government policies in relation to 'planning.

7.3 | Planning For The Future

4. With whom we will be sharing your personal data:

We will not share your personal data with organisations outside of MHCLG without contacting you for your permission first.

5. For how long we will use your personal data, or criteria used to determine the retention period:

Your personal data will be held for two years from the closure of the consultation.

6. Your rights, e.g. access, rectification, erasure:

The data we are collecting is your personal data, and you have considerable say over what happens to it. You have the right:

- to see what data we have about you
- to ask us to stop using your data, but keep it on record
- to ask to have all or some of your data deleted or corrected
- to lodge a complaint with the independent Information Commissioner (ICO) if you think we are not handling your data fairly or in accordance with the law. You can contact the ICO at <https://ico.org.uk/>, or telephone 0303 123 1113.

7. Storage of your personal data:

The Data you provide directly will be stored by MHCLG's appointed third-party on their servers. We have taken all necessary precautions to ensure that your rights in terms of data protection will not be compromised by this.

If you submit information to this consultation using our third-party survey provider, it will be moved to our secure government IT systems at a date following the consultation publication date.

8. Your personal data will not be used for any automated decision making.

Footnotes

- 1 The shortage of affordable homes in and close to the most productive urban centres is a major drag on national productivity – see PwC (2019) “UK Housing market outlook”, available at <https://www.pwc.co.uk/economic-services/uk/uk-housing-market-july-2019.pdf>.
- 2 The EU Compendium of Spatial Planning Systems and Policies, European Commission (1997); OECD (2017), Land-use Planning Systems in the OECD: Country Fact Sheets; Monk, S., Whitehead, C., Burgess, G. & Tang, C. (2013) International review of land supply and planning systems, Joseph Rowntree Foundation.
- 3 MHCLG data, period covering 24 months to and March 2019.
- 4 YouGov polling commissioned by Grosvenor (2019) – available at https://www.grosvenor.com/Grosvenor_files/a2_1222517-e-270-4a5c-ab9f-7a7b4a99b1f3.pdf. An overview of wider evidence and studies on public attitudes to planning and development is available in chapter 9 of the Building Better Building Beautiful Commission's interim report – available at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/815495/BBBB_Commission_Interim_Report_Appendices.pdf.
- 5 See the LGAs open statement on planning at <https://www.local.gov.uk/keep-planning-local>.
- 6 MHCLG (2019) The Value and Incidence of Developer Contributions in England 2018/19 available at: <https://gov.uk/government/uploads/section-106-planning-obligations-and-the-community-infrastructure levy-in-england-2018-to-2019-report-of-study>.
- 7 MHCLG data on housing supply available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/housing-supply-net-additional-dwellings-england-2018-to-2019>.
- 8 Data from the Deloitte Property Index, available at https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/uk/Documents/survey/Property_Index_2016_EN.pdf.
- 9 Building Better Building Beautiful Commission (2019) Creating space for beauty: Interim report. Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/815493/BBBB_Commission_Interim_Report.pdf.
- 10 See https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/875032/Planning_Application_Statistics_October_to_December_2019.pdf (p.3).
- 11 See Policy Exchange (2020) “A planning system for the 21st century”, available at: <https://policyexchange.org.uk/publication/rethinking-the-planning-system-for-the-21st-century/>; Centre for Cities (2020) “Planning for the future”, available at: <https://www.centreforcities.org/publication/planning-for-the-future/>; Building Better Building Beautiful Commission (2020) “Living with beauty: promoting health, well-being and sustainable growth”, available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/living-with-beauty-report-of-the-building-better-building-beautiful-commission>; Create Streets (2018) “From NIMBY to YIMBY”, and (2018) “More Good Homes”.
- 12 RTPJ (2020) “Plan the world we need: The contribution of planning to a sustainable, resilient and inclusive recovery”, available at: <https://www.rtpj.org.uk/research/2020/june/plan-the-world-we-need/>.
- 13 Our plan for cycling and walking is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cycling-and-walking-plan-for-england>.
- 14 To give your views on the England Tree Strategy, please visit <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/forestry/england-tree-strategy/>.
- 15 MHCLG (2019) The Value and Incidence of Developer Contributions in England 2018/19.
- 16 As above, a Section 106 planning obligation could still be used to secure a covenant on the land, where necessary. However, the value would be captured through the Infrastructure Levy, rather than Section 106.
- 17 Institute for Fiscal Studies (2019) “English local government funding: trends and challenges in 2019 and beyond”, <https://www.ifs.org.uk/uploads/English-local-government-funding-trends-and-challenges-in-2019-and-beyond-IFS-Report-166.pdf>.
- 18 For more information see <https://www.commonplace.is/>.
- 19 Estimates provided to the Housing, Communities and Local Government Select Committee Inquiry into Land Value Capture: <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmcomloc/766/766.pdf>.



Image Credits

Page	Image	Credit
Front cover	Tregunnel Hill	ADAM Architecture
3	Timekeepers Square	Buttress Architects, English Cities Fund, HDA Winner
11	Rochester Riverside, Chatham	BPTW for Countryside, HDA winner
14	Peverell Avenue in Poundbury	Andrew Cameron & Associates
17	Timekeepers Square	Buttress Architects, English Cities Fund, HDA Winner
18	South Gardens, Elephant and Castle	Maccreeanor Lavington for Land Lease, HDA winner
19	East Float, Wirral Waters	House by Urban Splash & Peel L&P
23	Community engagement, St Cuthbert's Garden Village	Stuart Walker Photography
24	Wapping Wharf Phase I, Bristol	Alec French Architects
25		Robert Kwolek
27	Wapping Wharf Phase I, Bristol	Alec French Architects
28	Fountains Close	Richmond Housing Partnership
31	Cecil Square	ADAM Architecture
38	Community engagement	HTA Design
39	Community engagement	HTA Design
40	Community engagement	HTA Design
42	Community engagement	HTA Design
43	Inholm site plan, Inholm, Northstowe, Cambs	Proctor and Matthews, Homes England, HDA winner
44	Roussillon Park, Chichester	Designed Ben Pentreath Ltd
46	AVRO Manchester	Urban Splash
47	Cane Hill	HTA Design
48	Park Hill, Sheffield	Urban Splash & Places for People
49	Tregunnel Hill	ADAM Architects
50	Great Kneighton	Countryside Properties

Page	Image	Credit
51	Milford	HTA Design
53	Roussillon Park, Chichester	Designed Ben Pentreath Ltd
61	South Gardens, Elephant and Castle	Maccreeanor Lavington for Land Lease, HDA winner
65	Foreman Manor	Aspen Homes
69	Listers Pods, Lister Mills, Bradford	Urban Splash
72	Community engagement, St Cuthbert's Garden Village	Stuart Walker Photography
73	Nansledan	ADAM Architecture
75		Robert Kwolek
77	Piece Hall	Piece Hall
81		PRP Architects
Rear cover	Campbell Park, Milton Keynes	Urban Splash & Places for People

Recommendations from the Events Advisory Group Meeting

Purpose of the Report

To report to Members the recommendations from the meeting of the Events Advisory Group.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 A meeting of the Events Advisory Group Meeting was held on Thursday 13th August 2020. Councillor O’Kane, Gerard Richardson, The Clerk and Assistant Clerk met at St Nicholas Gardens and Councillor Arrighi and Councillor E Dinsdale joined the meeting via the Zoom Platform.
- 1.2 Discussions centred around hosting a Traders Event in St Nicholas Gardens on Friday 20th November 2020 and to coincide this with having the Christmas Lights switched on the same day.
- 1.3 Due to the Coronavirus pandemic and government guidelines it was agreed to limit the number of stalls within the grounds and to space them 1 metre apart, to have hand sanitiser stations at the entry/exit points and to display social distancing signage.
- 1.4 We are currently working on a plan for hosting an outdoor market during COVID-19 and will be following advice/guidelines provided by government and local authorities who are currently operating outdoor markets.
- 1.5 The Clerk also reported to the Councillors present that we had received an e-mail from Herlid Vikings to inform us that because of the current guidelines surrounding events that they would now have to re-schedule the event originally planned for June 2020 to sometime in 2021/2022.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That Councillors approve the recommendations to host a Traders Event on 20.11.2020 and to have the Christmas Lights switched on the same day and to note the information at 1.4 and 1.5.

Item 12

Catenary Wire For Christmas Lights and Erection, Maintenance and Dismantling of Christmas Lights

Purpose of the Report and Recommendation

To consider the installation of new catenary wire and the erection, maintenance dismantling and repair of the Christmas lights and to consider suspending Financial Regulations.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 At a recent meeting of the Events Advisory Group it was recommended that the Christmas Lights be switched on on 20th November 2020
- 1.2 A delegated authority decision was made on 26th March 2020 and ratified by full Council on 10th July 2020 that expenditure of £2,600.00 be authorised to purchase new catenary wire to replace the damaged catenary wire and to install it in order to put out bunting for VE Day. Due to the lockdown this didn't happen but the damaged catenary wire needs to be replaced before the Christmas lights are erected.
- 1.3 The quote received and accepted was from the CCC department responsible for highway lighting who we have used for several years because of cost, quality and value for money service. To formalise this it is suggested that the Council considers suspending Financial Regulation 11 in accordance with Financial Regulation 18 to allow CCC to remove the damaged catenary wire, purchase the new catenary wire and install the new catenary wire at a cost of £2,600.00
- 1.4 Financial Regulation 18 states
- The council may, by resolution of the council duly notified prior to the relevant meeting of council, suspend any part of these Financial Regulations provided that reasons for the suspension are recorded and that an assessment of the risks arising has been drawn up and presented in advance to all members of council.
- 1.6 The Christmas lights have been recommended to be switched on on 20th November. The lights are currently stored in the Whitehaven Civic Hall. CCC Highway Lighting Department has erected, maintained, dismantled and repaired the Christmas light for the past few years. Each

year Financial Regulations have been suspended so that CCC can carry out this work. CCC have submitted a quote for this work which is the same as last year at £24,400 plus VAT.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That Members consider a resolution to suspend Financial Regulations to allow CCC to remove damaged catenary wire, purchase new catenary wire and install the new catenary wire. The resolution will then be referred to the next Council Meeting where the reasons for the suspension will be discussed and recorded and an assessment of the risks considered and the Council can then suspend the Financial Regulations

- 2.2 That Members consider a resolution to suspend Financial Regulations to allow CCC to erect, maintain, dismantle and repair the Christmas lights in Whitehaven. The resolution will then be referred to the next Council Meeting where the reasons for the suspension will be discussed and recorded and an assessment of the risks considered and the Council can then suspend the Financial Regulations.

Consultation on Removal of BT Public Payphones

Purpose of the Report

The Council are being consulted with regards to BT proposal to remove a number of public payphones within Whitehaven parish and submit any comments to Copeland Borough Council's planning department.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Attached at Appendix 1 is the list of public payphones that BT are proposing to remove. Those that fall within the parish of Whitehaven are highlighted.
- 1.2 The Council has already consulted on this list of payphones at its Full Council meeting held on 29.08.2019 where it was resolved that CBC be informed that the Council had no comments on BT's proposal (minute 1398/19 refers).

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That Councillors decide if they wish to submit any comments to CBC Planning Department on BT's proposal to remove the public payphones that fall within the Parish of Whitehaven.

Whitehaven Town Council

From: Chloe Unsworth <Chloe.Unsworth@copeland.gov.uk>
Sent: 27 July 2020 15:01
To: bootleparishcouncil@gmail.com; ennerdaleclerk@btinternet.com; Cleator Moor Helen Gilmour; eskdaleparishcouncil@gmail.com; egremontmarkethall@outlook.com; theclerkmtc@aol.com; clerkmuncasterpc@gmail.com; waberthwaitepc@btinternet.com; Whitehaven Town Council; jld1051@btinternet.com
Subject: CONSULTATION ON REMOVAL OF BT PUBLIC PAYPHONES
Attachments: Copeland District (B) Annex.xlsx; Street_Payphone notice_English.pdf

Dear Sir/Madam

CONSULTATION ON REMOVAL OF BT PUBLIC PAYPHONES

The Council has recently been consulted by BT on their proposals to remove a number of public payphones within the Borough.

As one or more of the public payphones is located within your Parish I am formally consulting you on this proposed removal.

I have attached a list of the payphones affected by this consultation for your attention. A copy of the notice from BT is also attached.

Should you have any comments on the proposed removal of the public payphone(s) in your area then you reply to the Council by **7th September 2020** using the following e mail address:-

E Mail – chloe.unsworth@copeland.gov.uk

Alternatively if the Parish Council wish to adopt any of the payphones on the list then you should include an expression of interest in your response.

Kind regards

Chloe Unsworth

Planning Officer
Development Management
Copeland Borough Council
07823825302

chloe.unsworth@copeland.gov.uk

Copeland Borough Council, The Copeland Centre, Catherine Street, Whitehaven, Cumbria, CA28 7SJ. Tel: 01946 598300. Fax: 01946 598303. www.copeland.gov.uk, info@copeland.gov.uk



Proud of our past. Energised for our future.

Please return in this format to ensure that the telephone number of the kiosk is clearly shown

Telephone Number	Address	Postcode	Average calls per month	Posting Completed Date	Agree Adopt Object	Reason for objection - based on need for telephony only not the kiosk
1 01946861294	ADJ LAY-BY ENNERDALE BRIDGE PCO1 ENNERDALE CLEATOR	CA23 3AR	0	14/07/2020		
2 01946810621	ADJACENT TO CIVIC HALL. PCO1 MARKET SQUARE CLEATOR MOOR	CA25 5AP	6	14/07/2020		
3 01946810330	JUNCTION SPRINGFIELD ROAD PCO1 BANKEND VIEW BIGRIGG EGREMONT	CA22 2TH	0	14/07/2020		
4 01946692546	LAY-BY OPP HOMEWOOD HOSPITAL PCO1 HOMEWOOD ROAD WHITEHAVEN	CA28 8JH	6	14/07/2020		
5 01946692309	JUNCTION OF MEADOW ROAD. SKIDDAW ROAD WHITEHAVEN	CA28 9TQ	3	14/07/2020		
6 01946692625	JCT LOW ROAD PCO1 WOODHOUSE ROAD WHITEHAVEN	CA28 9LL	0	14/07/2020		
7 01946693685	ADJACENT TO 3 LOWESWATER AVE PCO1 LOWESWATER AVENUE WHITEHAVEN	CA28 9NR	1	14/07/2020		
8 01946692547	ADJ 53 MEADOW ROAD MIREHOUSE PCO1 MEADOW ROAD WHITEHAVEN	CA28 8ER	4	14/07/2020		
9 01946824256	ADJ. CAR PARK SEACOTE HOTEL PCO1 BEACH ROAD ST. BEES	CA27 0ES	1	14/07/2020		
10 01946820586	ADJ TO CAR PARK ASHLEA ROAD PCO1 THE WILLOWS EGREMONT	CA22 2HT	0	14/07/2020		
11 01946820411	PCO PCO1 SPENSER CLOSE EGREMONT	CA22 2HE	4	14/07/2020		
12 01946820240	PCO O/S MAIN STREET EGREMONT	CA22 2AB	18	14/07/2020		
13 01946820810	JUNCTION ROYAL DRIVE PCO1 KINGS DRIVE EGREMONT	CA22 2LE	1	14/07/2020		
14 01946723220	O/S TELEPHONE EXCH PCO1 BOOT HOLMROOK	CA19 1TF	2	14/07/2020		
15 01229717267	LAYBY OPP OLD SCHOOL HOUSE. PCO1 MUNCASTER RAVENGLASS	CA18 1RD	0	14/07/2020		
16 01229717283	OPPOSITE THE OLD SCHOOL. PCO1 WABERTHWAITTE MILLOM	LA19 5YJ	0	14/07/2020		
17 01229718211	TRIANGLE OPP STATION HOTEL. PCO1 BOOTLE STATION MILLOM	LA19 5XB	1	14/07/2020		
18 01229772242	PCO PCO1 MARKET SQUARE MILLOM	LA18 4HZ	12	14/07/2020		

Notice date:



We're thinking about removing this payphone

Our research shows that this payphone just isn't used enough for us to carry on running it.

Because of this, we think we should remove it.

Do you have any comments or feedback?

If so, please contact your local authority within 42 days of the above date.

If you'd like to know where the next nearest payphone is, or who your local authority is, please call **0800 661 610** and choose option 1.

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Item 14

Request for Financial Support from the Chase Arts for Public Spaces for Miners Memorial

Purpose of the Report and Recommendation

To consider an email and documents received from the Chase Arts for Public Spaces requesting financial support to build a National Miners Memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum in Alrewas Staffordshire

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 An email and documents have been received from Chase Arts for Public Spaces asking for financial support for a project to build a National Miners Memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas Staffordshire.
- 1.2 The memorial is for miners from all parts of England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland and they are looking for financial support for the project.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that Members consider the request for financial support for the project to build a National Miners Memorial.

Whitehaven Town Council

From: len <lnrdprince@aol.com>
Sent: 13 August 2020 17:30
To: Whitehaven Town Council
Subject: National Miners Memorial
Attachments: Presentation Parish Council.docx

Dear Mrs Jewell

Last year the group Chase Arts for Public Spaces launched the project to build a National Miners' Memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas Staffordshire – home to over 350 national memorials. Its purpose is to remember all those men, women and children who have worked in the coal industry in the UK, to recognise their bravery and the sacrifices they made. It also remembers all those miners who fought in both World Wars – 45 of whom received the Victoria Cross for their actions. Private Abraham Acton who was born in Whitehaven was one of these heroes.

This memorial is for miners from all parts of England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland – we are doing quite well at getting the information out but need some help.

I have attached a presentation to give more information about this project and about our fund raising activities.

As a community with strong links to coal mining could you please read our presentation and share it with your fellow council members and hopefully become involved in the project.

Many thanks for your time.

Len Prince

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

National Miners' Memorial



C.H.A.P.S

Chase Arts for Public Spaces



Presentation

We are seeking your support, to erect a National Miners' Memorial at the National Arboretum in Alrewas Staffordshire.

Firstly I would like to talk about what makes this memorial so different from all of the other memorials we have in coal mining areas to coal mines, coal miners and those miners who lost their lives in colliery disasters over the last couple of centuries. We are all proud of our local memorials.

However the National Miners Memorial is different. It will be sited at The National Memorial Arboretum. This was created in 1997 in the centre of England at Alrewas near Lichfield in Staffordshire and is recognised as the UK centre for remembrance, a spiritually uplifting place which honours the fallen, recognises service and sacrifice, and fosters pride in the memory of those who have fought, those who have toiled in our industries, and those from our emergency services and other walks of life who have served all four nations of the United Kingdom.

We feel it is only fitting that coal miners from all corners of the United Kingdom have a lasting memorial on this site

It will give the opportunity for all the people of the United Kingdom, not just people from mining areas, to pay their respects to the men, women and children who worked and died in the coal mining industry over many hundreds of years. Also, it will be a place to remember the miners who fought and died in the two World Wars, especially the forty three in the First World War and the two in the Second World War who received the highest military honour; the Victoria Cross.

The National Miners memorial will be a very substantial structure. It will be two metres high, five metres long and one metre wide.

A design was agreed upon with sculptor Andy de Comyn, whose work includes the Shot at Dawn memorial at the 150-acre Staffordshire site, Built in Derbyshire stone, the memorial will have a bronze frieze made up of panels depicting the history of mining including recognising the colliers' contribution to the two World Wars.

On 19th July, BBC Midlands Today filmed at our proposed site at the National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas, Staffordshire!

Reporter Olivia Hutchinson interviewed artist Andy de Comyn, Len Prince, ex-miner and member of CHAPS, and Mike Mellor, President of CHAPS and project manager.

It resulted in a fabulous piece showing the magnificence of the NMA, the work undertaken by all those working in the coal mines and the passion and enthusiasm of Andy, Len and Mike to achieve this National Memorial to our miners.

The film can be watched at

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=10223324439038791&id=1220000405&sfnsn=scwspmo&extid=WL9YQx744Es9XAIZ&d=n&vh=e

It is also available on iplayer

This TV piece launched the opportunity for individuals or groups to be directly involved with the Memorial and to ensure it is built for future generations to know the importance of coal mining and all who worked in the industry.

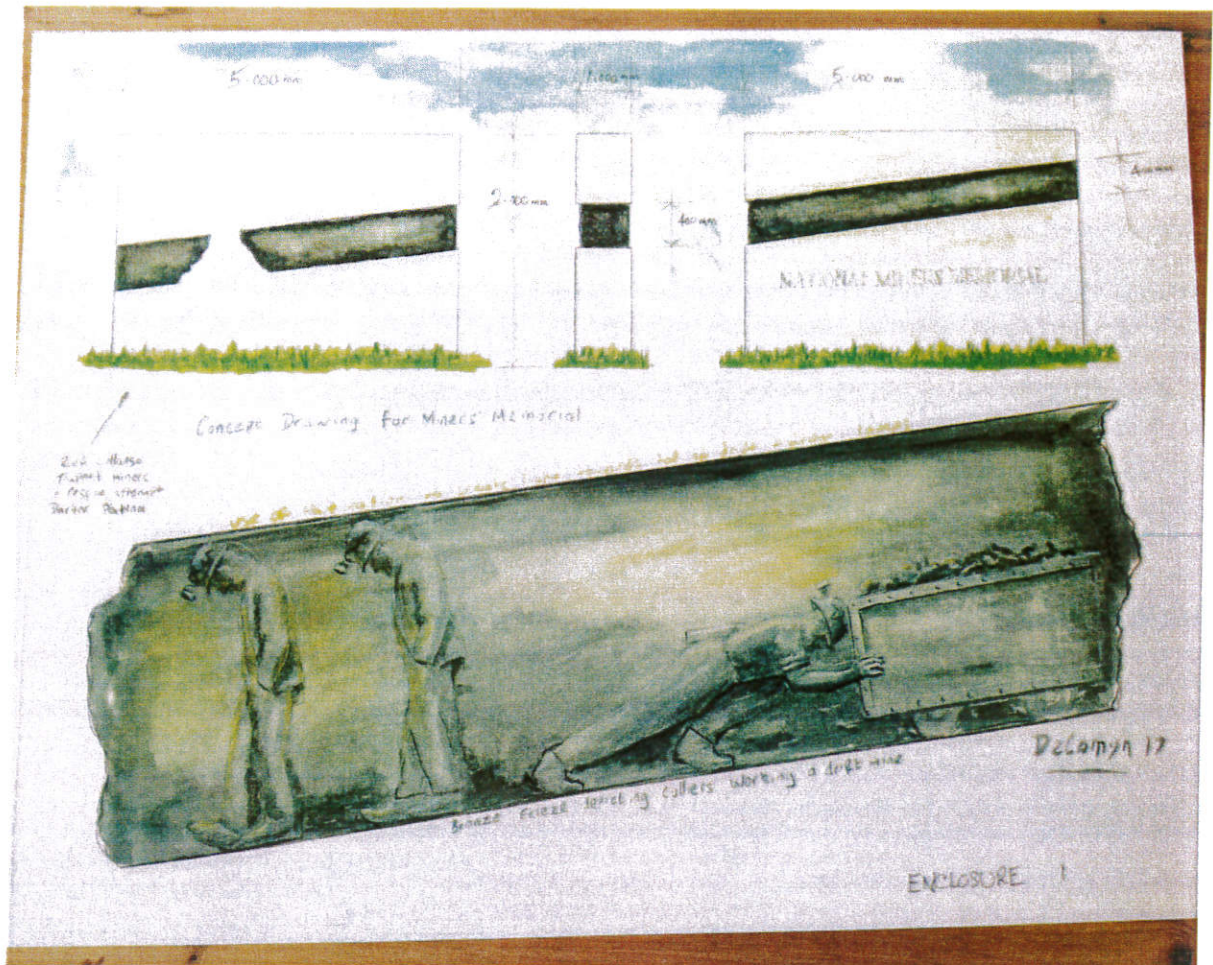
YOU CAN BE INVOLVED!

CHAPS is delighted that artist Andy de Comyn has agreed to allow them to offer the 22 bronze panels that will be positioned around the memorial depicting the history of coal mining to be 'sold' at a sponsorship cost of £2,500.00 each. The person or group purchasing would be acknowledged in a book to be produced for the dedication of the memorial and would also receive a full size plaster cast of the panel made to resemble the original bronze panel which they can display.

Or people can make a donation to the fund.

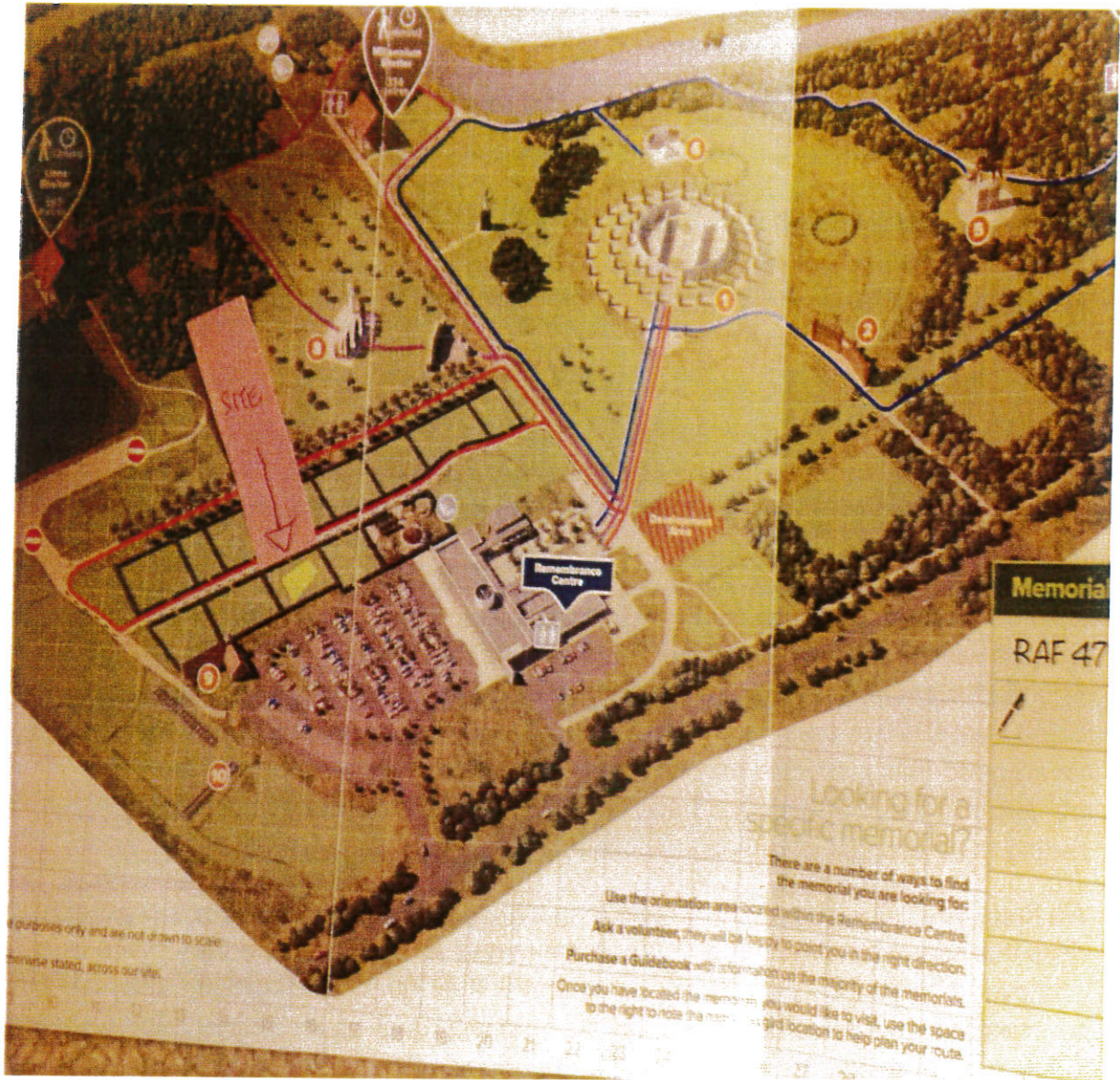
The following show some of the draft designs for the bronze panels





The next two pages will show an image of how the memorial will look in its site and its position in the Arboretum. The site will have benches for people to sit and reflect and remember their time underground or think about loved ones who have passed away.





We plan to have the inauguration of the memorial in June 2021 and hope that groups and individuals who have supported the project attend the ceremony. However Covid 19 has seriously disrupted our plans

We are looking to make the dedication service a very grand affair, with a member of the royal family opening the site of the memorial along with a Yorkshire brass band, a Welsh choir and some Scottish pipers. The national press and television companies will be invited.

The cost of the memorial including the annual upkeep for as long as the site is open will be £100,000.

We are looking for any financial support you could offer and for support to promote this project. For example, contacting working men's clubs or sports clubs who have mining traditions or organisations with links to our mining heritage who could help raise money for the project, their support would be much appreciated.

In the Cannock Chase coalfield area where CHAPS (Chase Arts for Public Spaces) is based, many people are aware of this project and have made donations. One group is well on the way to raising funds to sponsor a panel and one former miner donated his whole collection of mining plates to the fund, the sale of which has raised over £700 to date. However we have a long way to go. We need National coverage for this project to make former miners and their families aware of the memorial so they can help fund and support the project, and have a great day out visiting the memorial when it is established.

We hope you will support us with this long overdue project so that when anyone who visits this site of national remembrance, no matter what walk of life they come from, whatever their political persuasion is, whatever their ethnic background, they will see our memorial and hopefully reflect on the hard work and sacrifice coal miners made to fuel the great industries of our land and kept industries going so that we survived those two World Wars and made the country prosperous in the following years.

Any person or group interested in sponsoring a panel is asked to contact CHAPS on 07583 655199 or via their FaceBook page.

For more information: email info@chaseartsforpublicspaces.co.uk; visit

www.chaseartsforpublicspaces.co.uk/national-miners-memorial or

[www.Facebook/ChaseArtsForPublicSpaces](https://www.facebook.com/ChaseArtsForPublicSpaces) where you can donate to the appeal.

Donations can be made also at

www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/chapsnationalminersmemorial or can be made directly

to a designated bank account: HSBC Chaps National Miners Memorial; sort code:
40-47-11; account number 33901335.

Cheques can be made payable to Chaps National Miners Memorial and forwarded to
honorary treasurer Mr R Ford, 13 Sunny Bank Park, Sunny Bank, Lapley, Staffs
ST19 9QH.

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