



Department for Communities and Local Government

Chief Planning Officers
Local Planning Authorities (England)

10 September, 2013

Dear Chief Planning Officer,

Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications, Deemed Applications, Requests and Site Visits) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013

I am writing to you about the forthcoming changes to planning fees in England. The Fees for Applications, Deemed Applications, Requests and Site Visits Amendment Regulations have been agreed in both Houses of Parliament and have been signed by the Minister. They will come into force on **1st October 2013**.

In summary the amendments to the Regulations:

- enable the planning application fee to be paid to the Planning Inspectorate where planning applications are made directly to them (Regulation 3);
- allow for planning applications which replace conservation area consent to continue to be free (Regulation 4);
- introduce measures to refund the planning application fee where a planning application is not determined within 26 weeks (Regulation 5);
- introduce a fee for the use of a prior approval where planning permission is granted for a change of use (Regulation 6); and
- include two minor technical amendments (Regulation 7).

Please note that the requirement to refund the planning application fee after a period of 26 weeks will only be applied to applications which are made following the coming into force of the regulations on 1st October, 2013. This means that Regulation 5 will not be applied retrospectively to applications on hand.

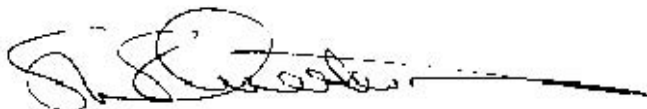
Cont'd.....

Department for Communities and Local Government
Eland House
Zone 1/J1
Bressenden Place
London
SW1E 5DU

Tel 03034441646
Email Alan.Cornock@communities.gsi.gov.uk

A copy of the Regulations can be found at the following link: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2013/2153/contents/made>. Please can you ensure this letter is cascaded to the appropriate people within your authority.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Quartermain', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Steve Quartermain
Chief Planner