



Department for Communities and Local Government

To:

The Chief Executive

Unitary, Metropolitan, District and London Borough Councils in England
County and County Borough Councils in Wales

The Town Clerk, City of London

The Clerk, Council of the Isles of Scilly

The Sub-Treasurer, Inner Temple

The Under Treasurer, Middle Temple

The Head of Building Control

Unitary Metropolitan, District and London Borough Councils in England
County and County Borough Councils in Wales

City of London

Council of the Isles of Scilly

Approved Inspectors

cc: The Chief Executive:

County Councils in England

National Park Authorities in England & Wales

The Chief Fire Officer: Fire and Rescue Authorities in England & Wales

18 June 2013

Dear Sir/Madam,

Party Wall etc. Act 1996: Revised Explanatory Booklet

I am writing to you to announce the publication of a revised edition of the "Party Wall etc. Act 1996 Explanatory Booklet" produced by DCLG.

The Party Wall Act applies to England and Wales and provides a framework for preventing and resolving disputes in relation to party walls, boundary walls and excavations near neighbouring buildings. The DCLG's Party Wall Act Explanatory Booklet provides guidance on the Act for building owners wishing to carry out work under the Act and adjoining building owners.

The Party Wall Act Explanatory Booklet has been simplified and updated to provide some answers to regularly asked questions. For example: what a party wall award can cover, what to do if a building becomes unsafe or if there is excessive noise from work being carried out and the role of the surveyor.

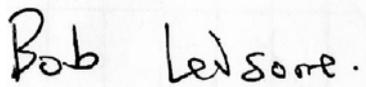
The revised Explanatory Booklet is only available electronically as a download publication from the DCLG section of the GOV.UK website at: <https://www.gov.uk/party-wall-etc-act-1996-guidance>.

You may wish to make building owners, seeking planning permission and/or building regulations approval, aware of the revised guidance where appropriate.

Enquiries

Any enquiries on this Circular Letter should be addressed to Sandra Simoni, Building Regulations and Standards Division, DCLG, tel: 0303 44 41781 or e-mail:enquiries.br@communities.gsi.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Ledsome." The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name.

R J Ledsome

**Deputy Director
Building Regulations and Standards Division**