

<b>Department for Communities and Local Government</b> <b>Structural Reform Plan Monthly Implementation Update</b>	<b>March 2012</b>
---	-------------------

**(1) Actions completed in March 2012**

<b>Section</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Status</b>
4.8 vii	Run a formal bidding round to bring more empty homes back into use, working with Local authorities, housing associations and some property owners. (end March 2012)	Completed
4.9vi	Consult on revisions to Part L 2013 of the Building Regulations (end March 2012)	Completed
3.2(iii)	Publish data in line with public sector transparency, moving progressively to fully open formats. ( end April 2012)	Completed early
5.1(iv)	Work with a small number of places to develop neighbourhood plans using existing powers (end April 2012)	Completed early
5.2 (i)	Produce the national planning framework with an ambition to complete by end 2011 (end April 2012)	Completed early
5.2 (ii)	Introduce as part of the national planning framework a strong presumption in favour of sustainable development (end April 2012)	Completed early
5.5(ii)	Publish new designation to protected areas of particular importance to locals communities (end April 2012)	Completed early

**(2) Actions due to be started by end March 2012**

<b>Section</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Status</b>
1.1(vii)	Develop and introduce proposals to implement Tax Increment Financing, working with HM Treasury, so that local authorities can raise funds against future uplift in their business rates base provided by an investment in infrastructure (end April 2013)	Work ongoing
1.1(viii)	Lead the localisation of Council Tax Benefit, working with Department for Work and Pensions, to enable local authorities to develop local rebate schemes for the most vulnerable people in society. Consider what flexibilities local authorities should have to keep overall levels of Council Tax down (end April 2013)	Work ongoing
1.3(iv)	Develop and implement a process for managing new data requirements from departments, and from their associated inspectorates and regulators (end April 2012)	Work ongoing
1.4(v)	In parallel, deliver proposals for the future development of Community Budgets, in phase 2 of the Local Government Resource Review (end April 2013)	Work ongoing
1.7	In line with the Red Tape Challenge bring forward proposals to reduce and reform the stock of statutory instruments and regulations for which the Department has overall responsibility (end December 2012)	Work ongoing
2.1(iii)	Prepare, introduce and pass secondary legislation as necessary to support implementation of the Localism Bill (end April 2012)	Work ongoing
2.1(iv)	Develop and put in place a targeted programme of support to help communities understand their new rights and support take-up of community ownership of assets and services (end April 2012)	Work ongoing
2.2(v)	Work with each new local enterprise partnership to enable them to establish their roles and functions (end April 2012)	Work ongoing
2.4(vi)	Run a third bidding round for the Regional growth Fund if required, subject to review in	Work

## UNCLASSIFIED

	Sep 2012 (end April 2013)	ongoing
2.9(ii)	Develop and implement a new local audit regime where all such audits will be regulated within a statutory framework, with oversight by the profession and the National Audit Office (end December 2012)	Work ongoing
2.9(iii)	Disband the Audit Commission, considering options for moving its in-house practice into the private sector, including through mutualisation (end December 2012)	Work ongoing
2.10(i)	Develop and introduce legislation so that officials who ban events on health and safety grounds should put their reasons in writing. (end May 2012)	Work ongoing
2.10(ii)	Develop and introduce legislation so that local authorities conduct an internal review of all refusals on the grounds of health and safety (end May 2012)	Work ongoing
3.2(iii)	Publish data in line with public sector transparency, moving progressively to fully open formats (end April 2012)	Work ongoing
3.6	Work with local authorities to make spending data more comparable and explore ways to identify spending to the voluntary and community sector (end May 2012)	Work ongoing
4.5 ix	First payments made setting up the new self –financing Housing Revenue Account system.	Work ongoing
4.7(vii)	Pass the Localism Bill and associated regulations to ensure that the Community Infrastructure Levy incentivises neighbourhoods to go for growth (end April 2012)	Work ongoing
4.12	Scope and start to pilot elements of the land auctions approach on publicly owned land during 2011-12 in order to test the land disposal elements of the model and report to Ministers on early findings (end April 2012)	Work ongoing
4.13(iv)	Report on the tenancies created and sustained in the first year of a scheme led by the voluntary sector to improve access for single homeless people to the private rented sector (end July 2012)	Work ongoing
5.1(vii)	Prepare and introduce secondary legislation as necessary (end May 2012)	Work ongoing

**(3) Explanation of missed and delayed deadlines**

There were no missed deadlines in March 2012.

The status of actions missed from previous reports is:

Deadline missed		Reason
5.7ii Consult on proposals to simplify the information required to support planning applications, particularly at the outline stage (end Nov 2011)	Still not complete	We expect to publish the Consultation on full details of the Planning Guarantee and on our proposals to streamline information requirements for planning applications in May.