

Appendix A

Recommendations of the Planning Matters Task Group

Highways

1. County Council process changes should be developed and implemented with a particular focus on the following;
 - i. LCC officers to prepare a summary of the highway advice to the LPA for inclusion in reports to the LPA's development control committee.
 - ii. LCC officers to send the highways summary to the County Councillor in the electoral division containing the proposed development.
 - iii. LCC officers to consider the use of standard highway conditions when advising LPAs.
2. County Council officers to work closely with District Councils officers to:
 - i. reduce the number of minor applications upon which highways advice is requested.
 - ii. strengthen Validation Checklists to reflect the information needs of the Highway Authority.
 - iii. where possible through agreement with the district and applicant, extend determination timescales if significant new information is submitted.
 - iv. provide Standing Advice for smaller applications.
3. Request the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to seek changes in planning legislation to allow for mandatory time extensions if applicants submit substantial new information during the determination period.

Education Contributions

Any County Council request for education contributions is included in reports to the LPA development control committee. If absent from the committee report, an explanation is sought from the LPA.

Flood Risk Management

1. Offer training to planning officers and all district planning committees to communicate the recent changes in flood risk roles for LCC and the Environment Agency within the planning process, and commit to continued dialogue over any issues that arise.
2. Encourage all County & District Councillors to report local flooding incidents to LCC Highways (using email: highways@lancashire.gov.uk or telephone: 0300-123-6780) for investigation and records.
3. Flood Risk Management responses to planning consultations to include a section identifying what records the County Council holds about local flooding incidents (if any) and how they relate to the proposed development, to assist in bridging perceived gaps between local knowledge and technical advice.

