

DCLG Planning Guidance Consultation
<planning.guidance@communities.gsi.gov.uk>

19 January 2013 16:43

To: John Steele (Horsham Society)

Thank you for your response to the consultation

Here is a record of your submission:

Q1. Do you agree with the recommendations of the Review Group overall?

The Horsham Society is the civic society for the town of Horsham, West Sussex with over 1200 members. The Society welcomes the recommendations and considers that once implemented there will be significant benefits for Civic Societies in accessing Government policy.

Q2. Do you agree with the proposed recommendations for a much reduced set of essential practice guidance in the format recommended? (Recommendations 1, 2, 3, 5, 6)

Yes

Q3. Do you agree that standards for future Government Planning Practice Guidance should be implemented by the Chief Planner in DCLG, but with decisions on what to include within guidance still taken by Ministers? (Recommendation 4)

Yes

Q4. While access to all planning guidance online will be free of charge, do you think it would be appropriate to offer planning professionals an additional service involving immediate notification of every revision to the guidance, and to make a small charge for this service? (Recommendation 6)

We do not agree that there should be any system of charges. The principle of free access should apply to all information. There could be a free email based alert system such as is commonly used elsewhere.

Q5. Do you agree that the new web based resource should be clearly identified as the unique source of Government Planning Practice Guidance? (Recommendations 7-9)

Yes

Q6. Do you agree with the recommended timescales for cancellation of guidance and new/revised guidance being put in place? (Recommendations 10-13)

Yes

Q7. Do you agree with the recommendations for cancellation of existing guidance documents? Are there specific, essential elements of current guidance material that should in your view be retained and considered for inclusion in the revised guidance set? (Recommendations 14 - 16)

In principle yes. We are not qualified to say whether there are any exceptional elements of current guidance to be retained.

Q8. Do you agree with the recommended priority list for new/revised guidance? (Recommendations 17-18)

Yes

Q9. Are there any further points you would like to make in response to the Review Group's Report? Do you have additional ideas to improve and/or streamline planning practice guidance?

We hope that adequate resources will be provided to ensure the work is completed as quickly as possible.

Your name

John Steele

Your email address

horsoc@thesteels.myzen.co.uk

Your organisation

The Horsham Society

Kind regards
Department for Communities and Local Government