



Meeting Note

File reference	EA Liaison
Status	Final
Author	Hannah Pratt

Meeting with	Environment Agency (EA)
Meeting date	12 December 2012
Attendees (Planning Inspectorate)	Sheila Twidle (Head of Environmental Services) Tom Carpen (Principal Case Manager) Hannah Pratt (EIA and Land Rights Advisor)
Attendees (non Planning Inspectorate)	Julie Foley Andrew Mozley Sally Holloway Julia Farthing Andrew Coleman
Location	Teleconference

Meeting purpose	Regular liaison meeting with the EA
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Summary of key points discussed and advice given	<p>The PINS 'One Stop Shop' proposal (Consents Service Unit)</p> <p>The Government is currently consulting on proposed reforms to expand and improve the 'one stop shop' approach for (non-planning) consents for nationally significant infrastructure projects (NSIPs). This would include the establishment of a Consents Service Unit (CSU) hosted within the Planning Inspectorate. It would provide a lead contact to work with the developer and consenting bodies, to co-ordinate a logical and systematic approach to the handling of a range of consents. Janet Wilson (NID Head of Casework) has been seconded to the Department for Communities and Local Governments (DCLG) for six months to progress the proposals. Hannah Bartram (EA) is currently on assignment to DCLG working on the 'one stop shop' consultation. The EA has also agreed to second an individual from its National Permitting Service when the new CSU is set up.</p> <p>The group discussed the need for the unit to engage with developers at an early stage during pre-application; to identify the non-planning consents required by developers; and to set out dates by which certain milestones should be reached. It was acknowledged that not all developers may wish to parallel track their Development Consent Order (DCO) application with non-planning consents, such as</p>
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	<p>Environmental Permit applications.</p> <p>Extending the NSIP regime – business and commercial projects</p> <p>The EA will be responding to the DCLG consultation regarding extending the NSIP regime to business and commercial projects. The need for National Policy Statements (NPSs) for such projects was queried, and PINS explained that the Government has proposed that a NPS for the new categories would not be produced. Currently, this is out for consultation.</p> <p>The group raised concerns over the resource implications of the anticipated 10-20 additional projects per annum, although it was acknowledged that an applicant can choose which permitting route they take and therefore the number of additional projects is uncertain.</p> <p>EA work on charging for planning pre-applications</p> <p>The EA consultation on proposals to charge for their pre-application advice closed on 9 November 2012, with 28 responses received. The EA is considering the issues raised and will be presenting options to EA Directors in late December 2012.</p> <p>AOB</p> <p>From 17 December 2012, Adam Ireland will be replacing Sally Holloway who is going on maternity leave. He will become the main point of contact within the EA for PINS.</p>
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Specific decisions/ follow up required?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sally Holloway to send Adam Ireland's contact details to PINS (Hannah Pratt). 2. Sheila Twidle to speak with Janet Wilson and set up a meeting between them and Neil Davies and Julie Foley. 3. Next meeting to discuss the One Stop Shop in the new year.
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Circulation List	All attendees