

Infrastructure Planning Commission

Introduction to the IPC and its procedures

12 October 2011



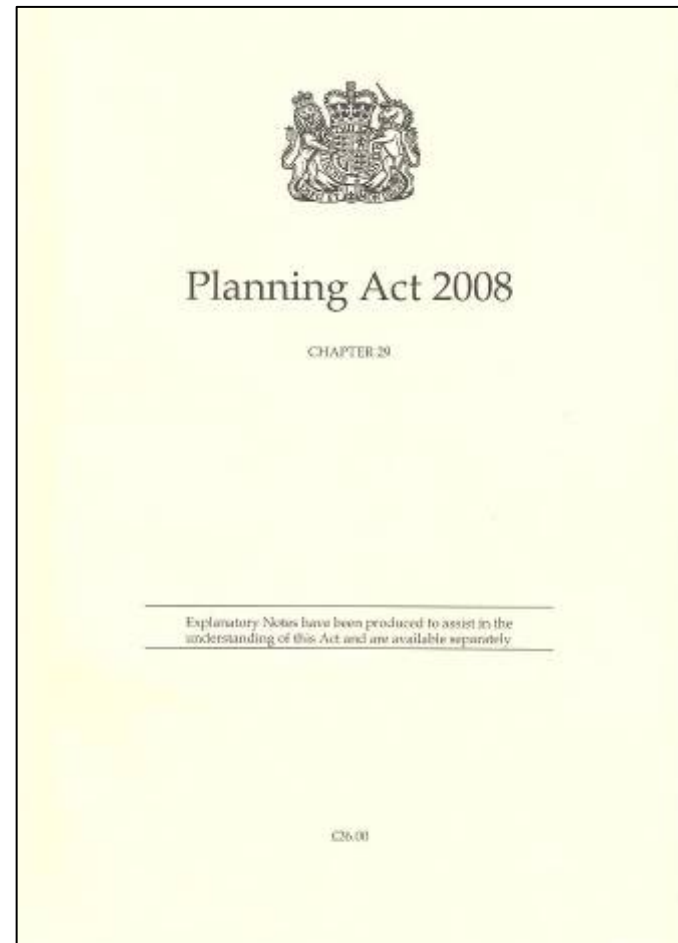
Overriding objective

To create a planning system for national infrastructure which has the support of all concerned.

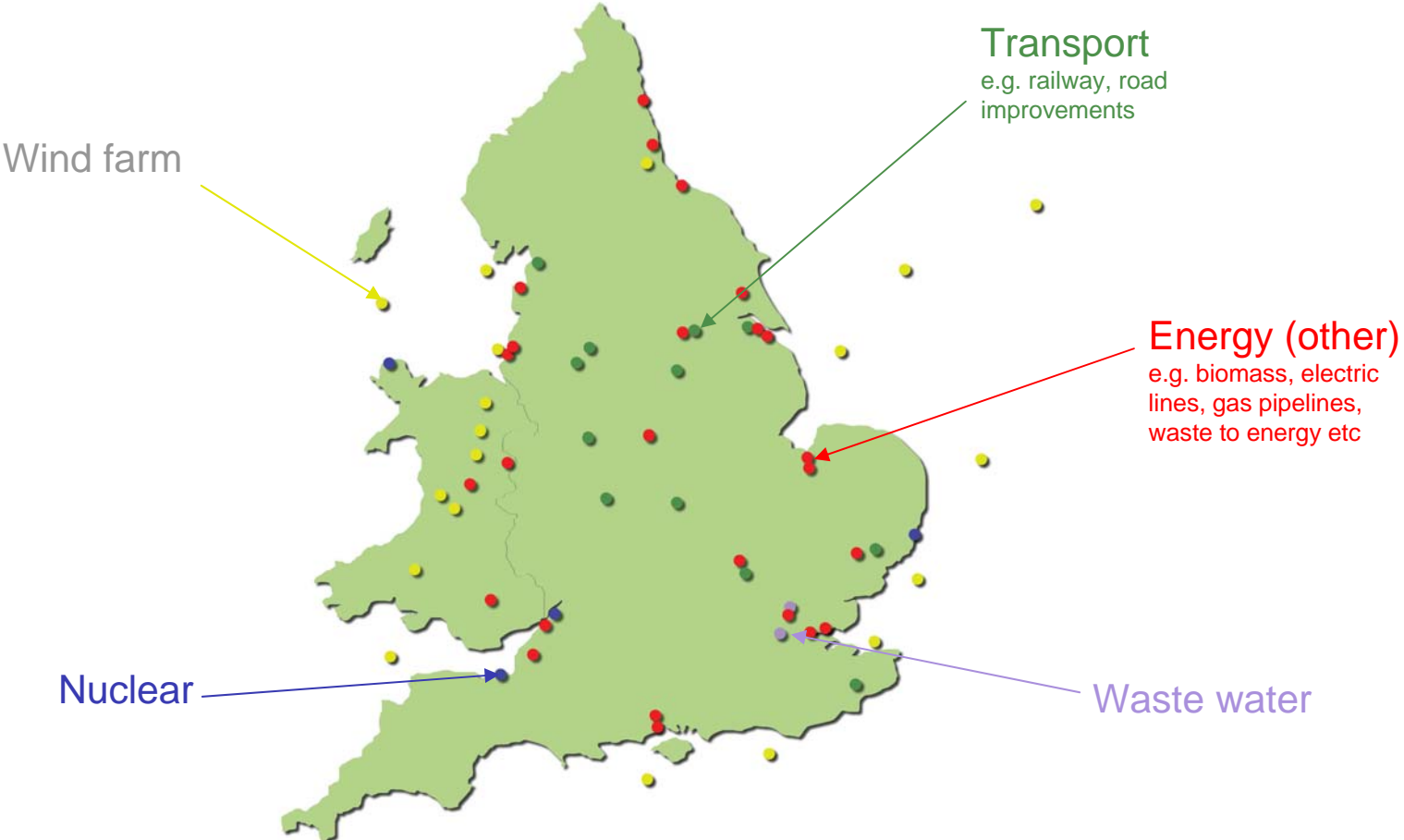


The Act provides for

- A single integrated consent regime
- National Policy Statements
- Front loading of the application process
- Stronger community engagement
- Regulations and Rules

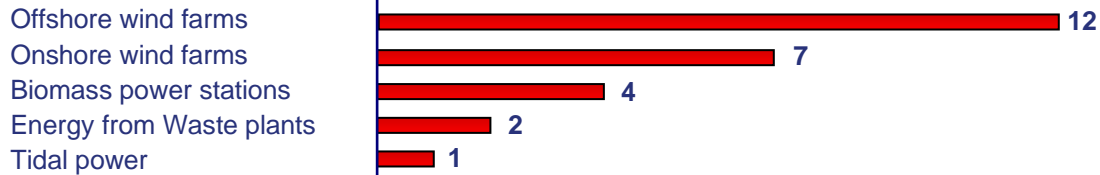


The size of the challenge (1)



The size of the challenge (2)

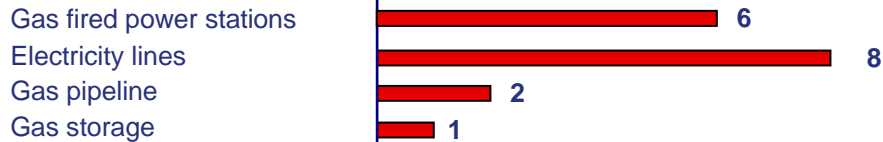
Renewable Energy (26)



Nuclear power stations (4)



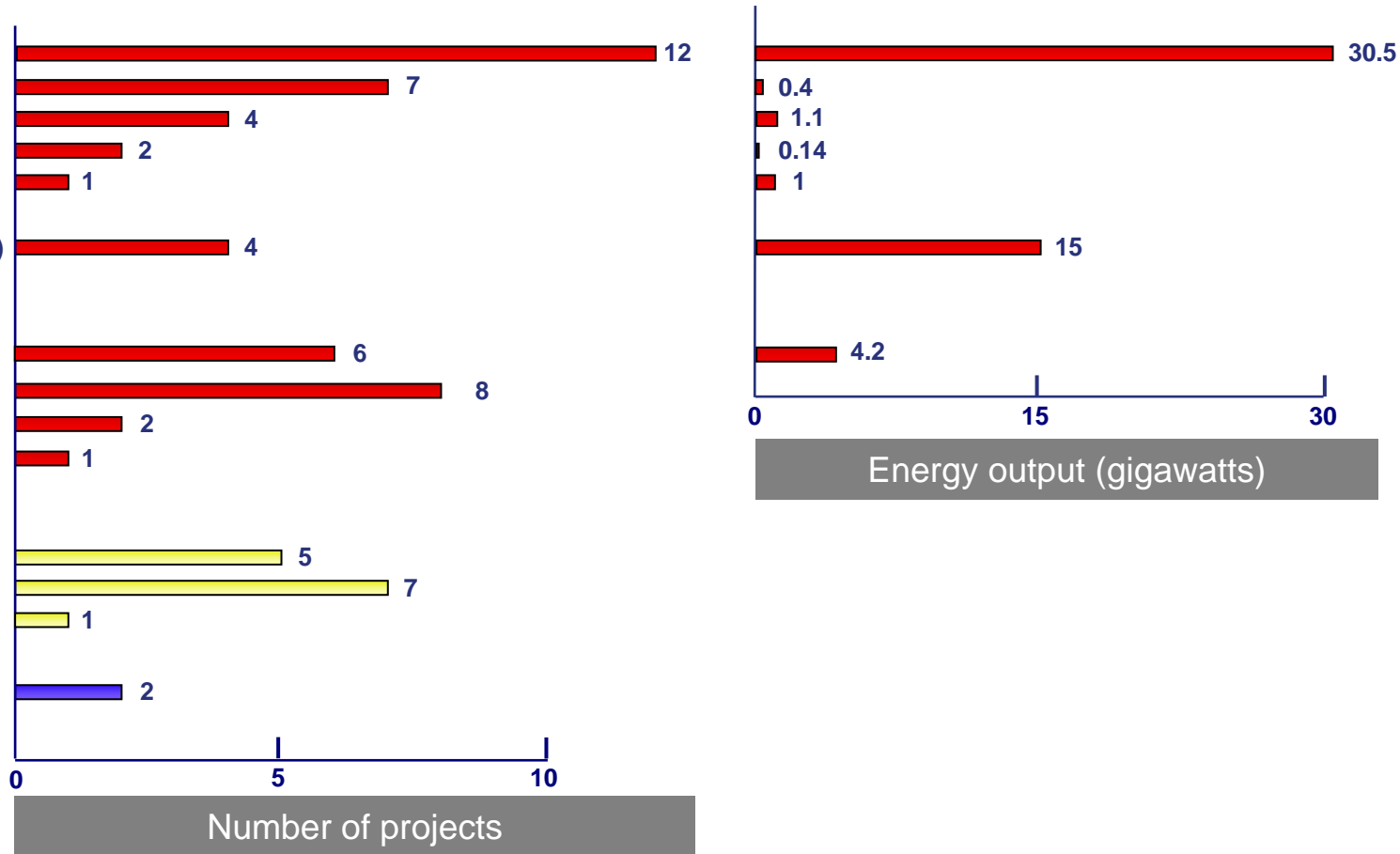
Other Energy (17)



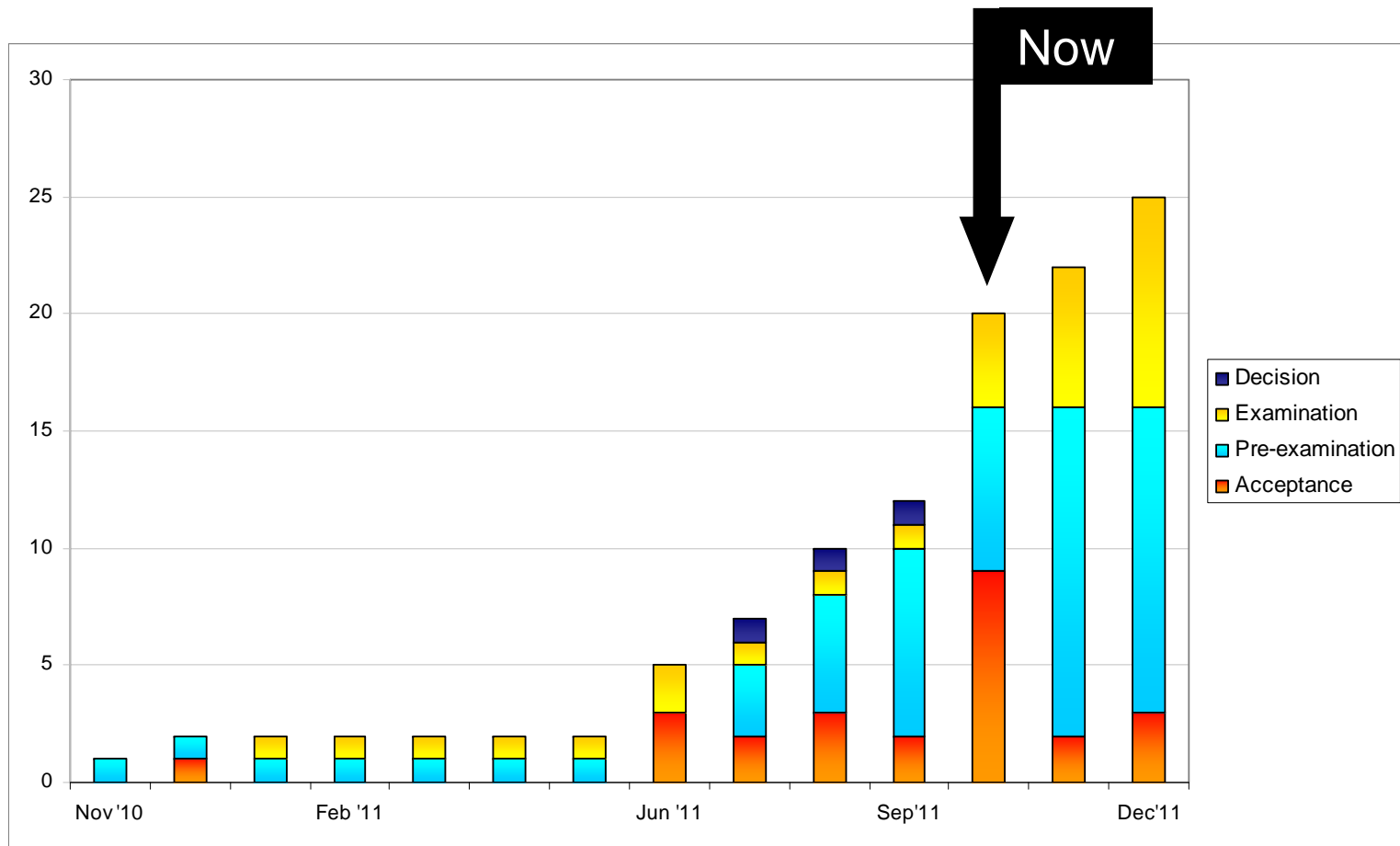
Transport (13)



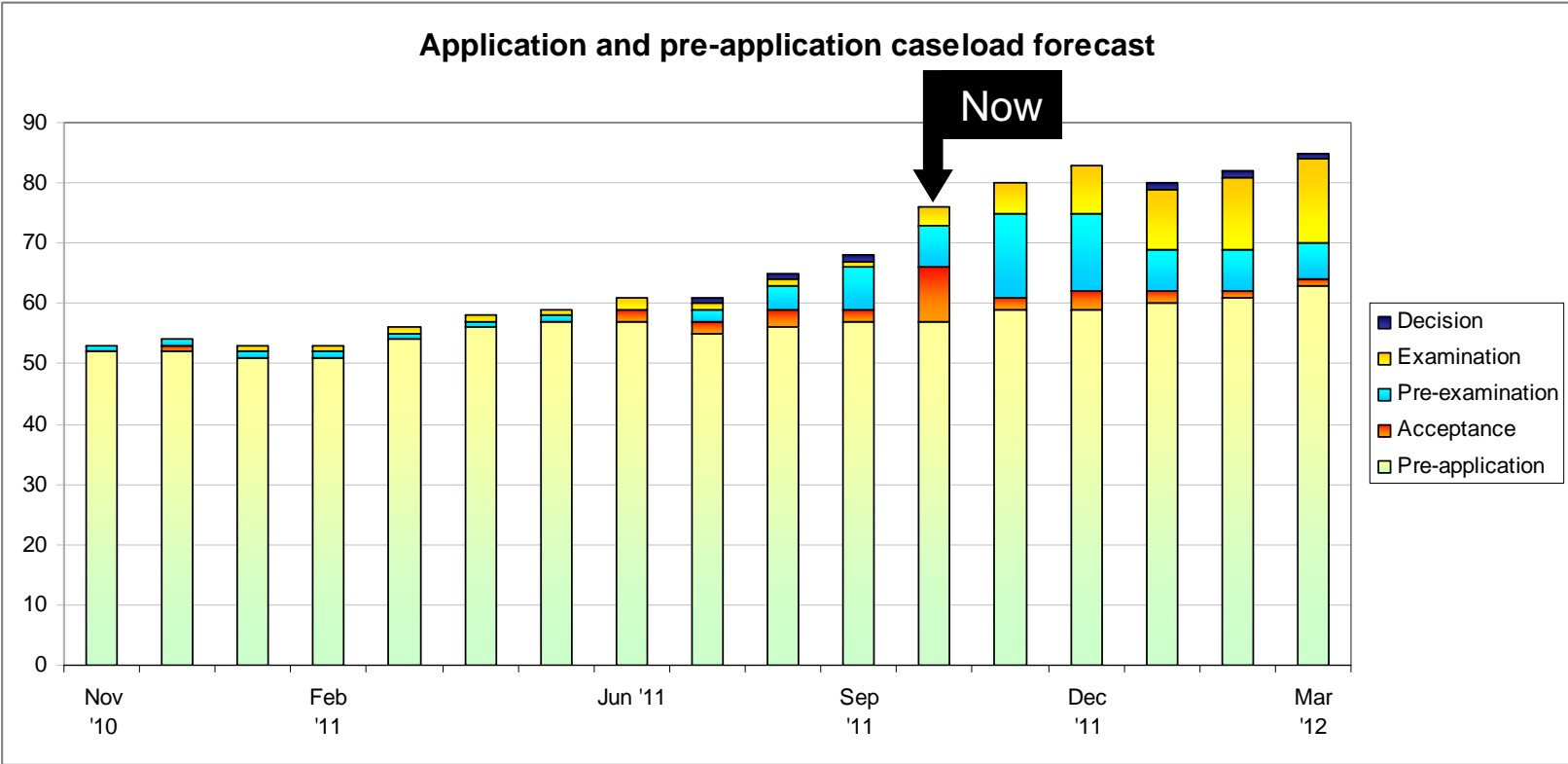
Waste Water (2)



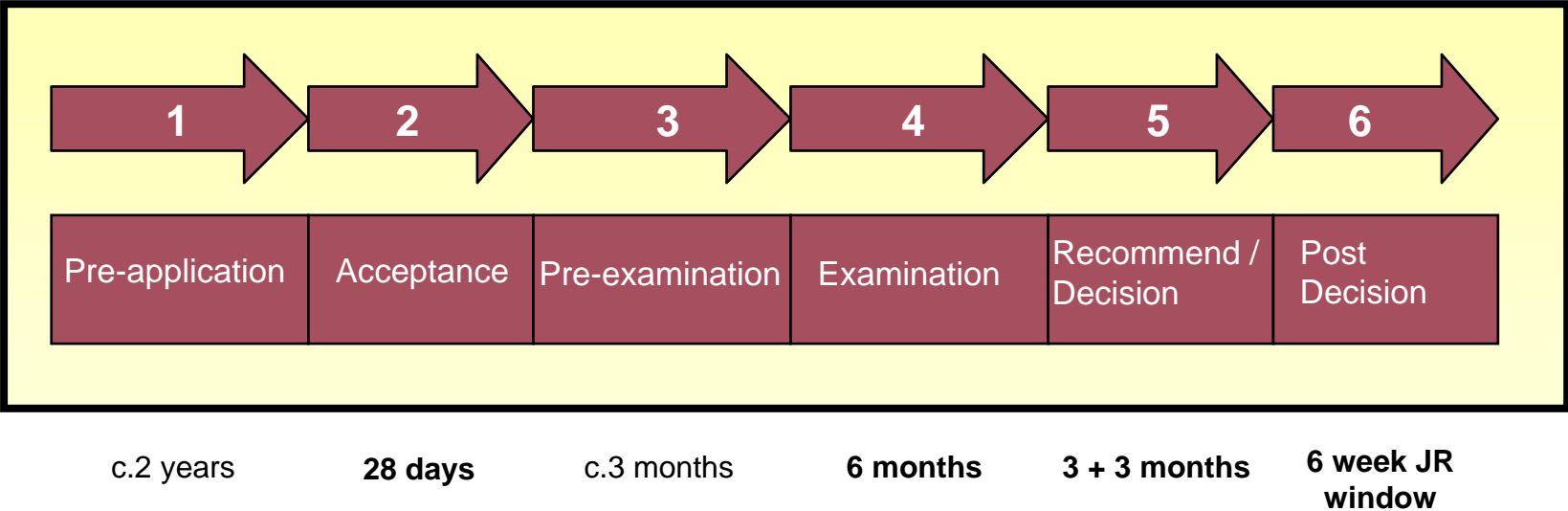
Applications: Examination Caseload



Total Caseload

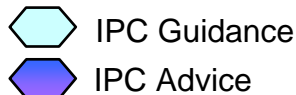
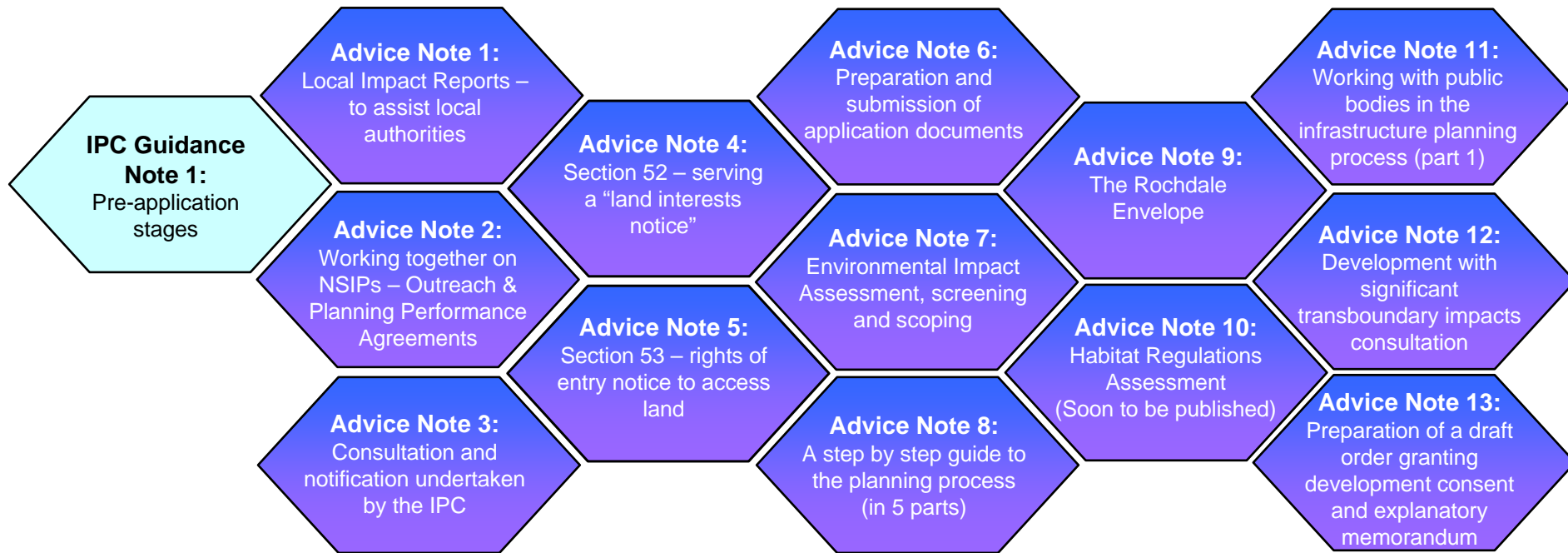


The Planning Act 2008

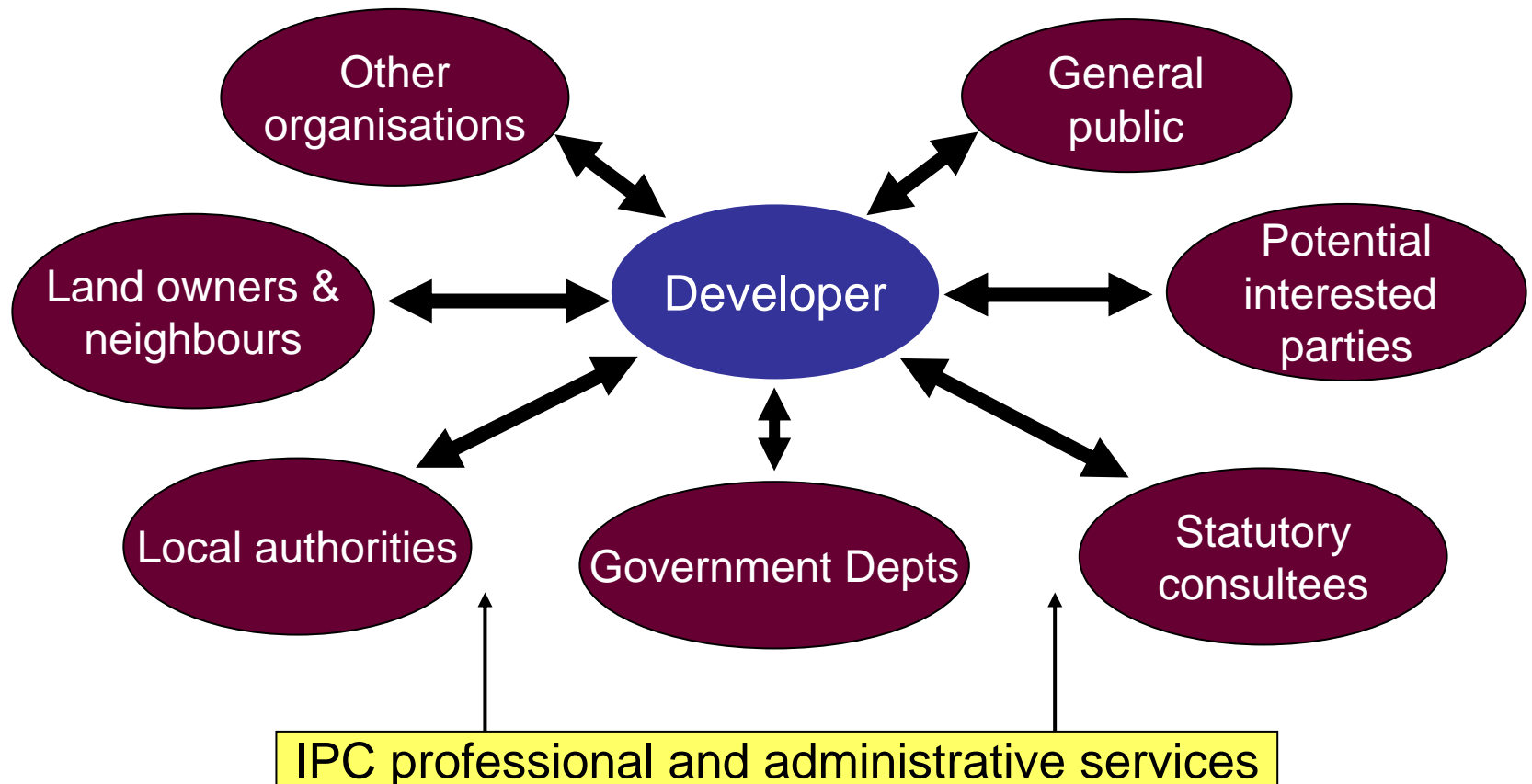


Times in **bold** are statutory

Guidance and Advice



Pre-application: effective community and organisational engagement



Pre-application work

Total application: No shocks and no surprises

- Driven by applicant
- Engagement & Consultation
- Draft Environmental statement
- SoCC
- Draft DCO
- Limited scope for amending applications post submission

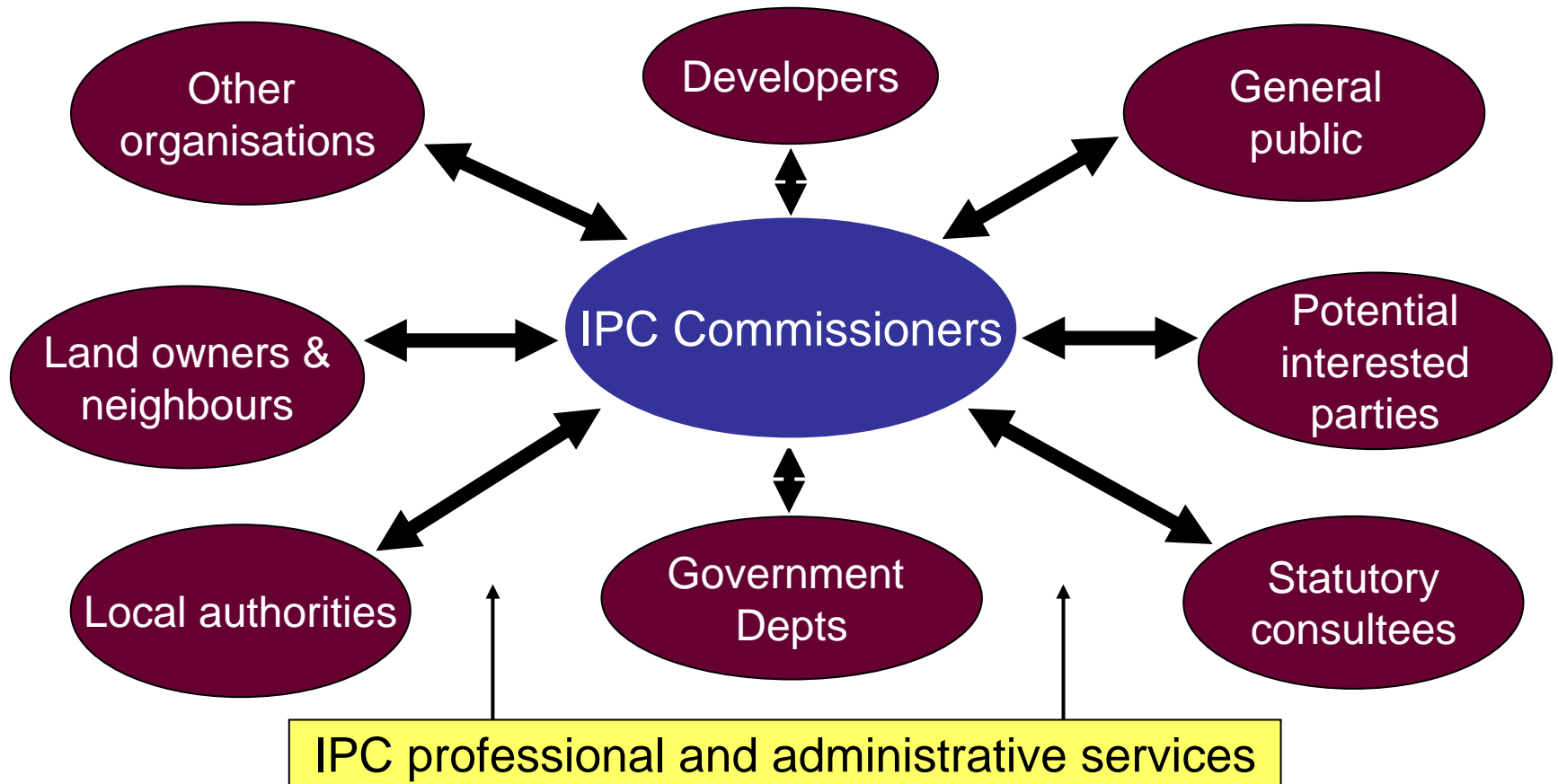


Acceptance

- Has the applicant met its pre-application obligations?
- Is the application in the correct form, including necessary documentation?
- Does the Consultation Report demonstrate that consultation was effective?
- Local authorities' adequacy of consultation representations?
- Has applicable guidance been followed, and if not, why not?



Post application: effective gathering of evidence and decision making



Pre-examination

- Applicant required to publicise an accepted application
- Appointment of *Examining Authority*
- Stakeholders register as interested parties
- IPC makes its initial assessment of issues
- Preliminary meeting
- Procedural decision
- Timetable for examination

The examination

- Examination to be inquisitorial rather than adversarial
- Statements of common ground
- Local Authority produces Local Impact Report
- Written representations
- Hearings
 - Open floor
 - Specific issue
 - Compulsory purchase
- IPC may appointment an assessor



The role of local authorities

- Statutory Consultee
- Also promoter in this case
- Key role in pre-application consultation
- SoCC consultation
- Comment on adequacy of consultation at acceptance stage
- Participation in examinations
- Local Impact Report
- Requirements
- Enforcement

Challenges for applicants

- Meeting the pre-application requirements
- ‘Front loading’ of applications
- Limited provision for allowing supplementary information and subsequent changes to the application
- Differences to previous systems of consenting
- Draft Development Consent Order

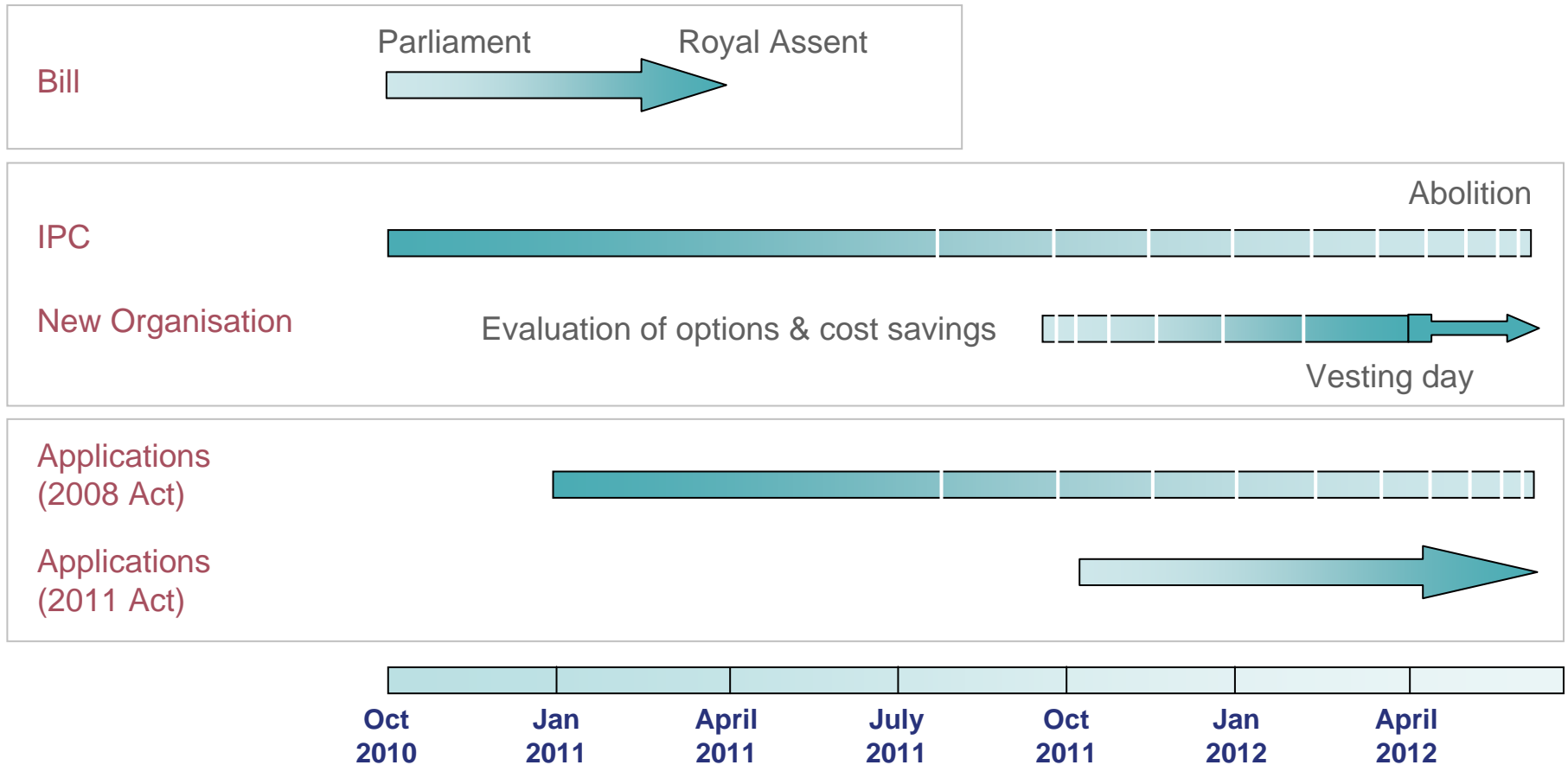
Looking to the future

Commitment to ‘an efficient and democratically accountable fast-track process for major infrastructure projects’.

- NPSs to be voted on by Parliament
- Decentralisation and Localism Bill
- Integration with the Planning Inspectorate
- Expertise, processes and special character of the IPC to be retained
- Seamless transitional arrangements.



Estimated timeline: Transition!



Combining the best of both worlds (1)

Planning Act 2008

- NPSs
- Single consents regime
- Front loading
- Statutory timetable

Decentralisation and Localism Act 2011

- Parliamentary approval of NPSs
- Secretary of State decisions
- Reduced risk of successful JR challenges
- Cost savings

Combining the best of both worlds (2)

- A managed process
- Pivotal role of ‘Appointed Person’
- Continued emphasis on Conflicts of Interest
- Front loading
- Inquisitorial process
- Openness policy

