

Following a recent telephone conversation the IPC is sending this email to clarify and elaborate on the points discussed.

At the preliminary meeting "or as soon as practicable... after the end of that meeting" the Examining authority must set the timetable for the examination of the application (see rule 8 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010, see link:

[http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2010/103/pdfs/ukxi\\_20100103\\_en.pdf](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2010/103/pdfs/ukxi_20100103_en.pdf)).

This timetable will, amongst other matters, state the deadline for receipt by the Examining Authority of a Local Impact Report (LIR), and the period within which the interested parties may comment on this report.

Paragraph 61 of DCLG Guidance on the examination of applications for development consent states that "The Secretary of State considers that normally the local impact report should be received by the Examining authority within a six week period starting from the day following the end of the preliminary meeting, unless it considers that the relevant local authority, or local authorities, require a longer period to prepare the reports because of the number of issues raised by the application." You may wish to consider whether you request to speak at the preliminary meeting to discuss this deadline.

We advise local authorities to consider whether their constitution, planning committee cycle and scheme of delegation can accommodate the timeframes set by the Planning Act 2008, and relevant secondary legislation. It is for each local authority to determine whether to amend these to fit more appropriately with this procedure.

We understand from the conversation that the LIR will go through your Council's Planning Committee prior to being sent to the IPC, although the relevant representation will not.

Please note that if your Council wishes to submit a written representation during the examination, or wishes to make oral representations at a hearing, this must be based on the issues raised within the relevant representation and, subject to the Examining authorities conduct of the examination, not include issues which have not already been raised within the relevant representation.