

Economic and Employment Council Town Planning Task Force

Introduction

This paper outlines a proposed review program for members' consideration.

Main Planning Processes

The focus of the review will be on shortening the long lead-time, through tackling the administrative and statutory issues of three main planning processes –

- (a) Planning applications
- (b) Applications for amendments to Outline Zoning Plans
- (c) Plan making and planning objections

The following table gives an indication of the workload of the Town Planning Board (TPB) –

Number of Cases Handled by TPB		
	<i>Planning Applications</i>	<i>Objections</i>
2000	924	283
2004	770	319

The Town Planning Task Force Review

Members will review each process in turn, analyse the major steps, and make recommendations for the problems identified. The proposed tasks include the following –

- (a) Setting priorities for the review
- (b) Problems causing delays in the process
 - Administrative problems
 - Statutory problems

- (c) Concrete Examples
- (d) Recommendations for streamlining
 - Administrative (short to medium terms)
 - Statutory (medium to long term)
- (e) Discussion with HPLB and Planning Department
- (f) Report to Subgroup/EEC

Proposed Programme

1. November 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Priority setting• Discuss problems and possible recommendations for one process
2. January 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Further discussion on problems and possible recommendations for another process and concrete examples
3. April 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion with HPLB and PlanD
4. May 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Further discussion within Task Force or with Government
5. June/July 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reporting to Subgroup/EEC

Analysis of Planning Application Process

..... An example of the planning application process is at the attached table for members' reference.

November 2005