

# Locally set fees

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# Overview

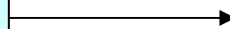
- Joint LG Group / POSe / DCN / CCN submission to consultation.
  - Not just “yes”, but proposing some details:
    - Using information from benchmarking club
    - Worked up with 20 pilots
      - Not finished / agreed
      - Share early thoughts and likely direction
      - Without prejudice !
-

# Overview of LAPS

## Principles

Heritage	Free go	Cost of objections
Retrospective applications	Cost of committee	Premium
Exemptions from fees	Over/under provision	Publishing

**Part 'A'**  
**Cost = £1m**



**Part 'B'**

Q1 £1100  
Q2 £1400  
Q3 £700  
...  
Q24 £100

# Overview – three components

## 1. Principles

- a. Common approaches to heritage / free go / premium offer / accountability etc.

## 2. Part 'A' – How much is to be recovered

- a. Direct costs of services
- b. Indirect (as per BVACOP)

## 3. Part 'B' – How these costs are apportioned

- a. Turn into fee schedule
  - b. Extend to cover full, outline, condition, retrospective etc
-

## Overview (cont'd)

- Not compulsory for LPAs
    - But cheaper / quicker / less risky
  - Charged or free ?
    - Benchmark club = £500-600 per year
  - Maintained by LG group / PAS (?) / CIPFA
    - Principles: reviewed annually.
    - Part A: undertaken and shared each year
    - Part B: changed as regs change. Target is not to change them too often
-

# Overview (cont'd)

- For applicants and fee payers
    - ‘Principles’ consistent
    - Part ‘A’ benchmarked in public
    - Park ‘B’ benchmarked in public
  - Alongside fee setting
    - Locally monitored performance in much more detail than national indicators
    - Importance of public money for other aspects of planning (plan, enforcement)
-

# The principles

- 24 key issues
  - Preliminary view, subject to final consensus and political leadership
  - Inform submission, but will form “rules” of our package
  - .....
-



1. Cost recovery for application activity only
  2. Public funding for plan making
  3. No cross subsidies
  4. No “free go”s
  5. No underwriting for local priorities
  6. No compulsory framework for calculating fees
  7. Charge for heritage apps
  8. No charge to objectors
  9. No committee surcharge
  10. Largest applications PPA negotiated fee
  11. No discount for article 4
  12. No discount for parishes, playing fields etc
  13. Only discount disabled access
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14. Pre-app charging unchanged
15. No cap – full cost recovery
16. No per dwelling charging
17. Fee structured on “Q” codes
18. Use average time to determine fee
19. Use standard accounting for overheads
20. Retrospectives surcharged for investigation
21. No profit
22. Three year rolling balance
23. Annual review
24. Local service level flexibility

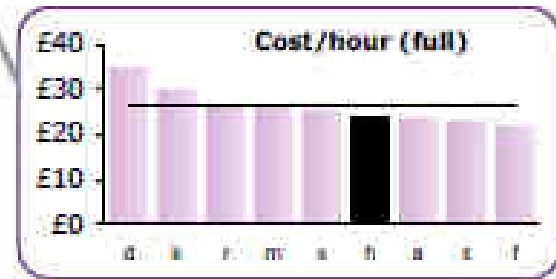
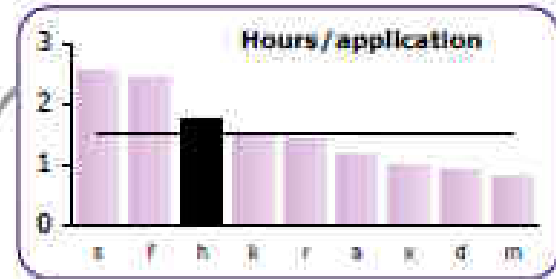
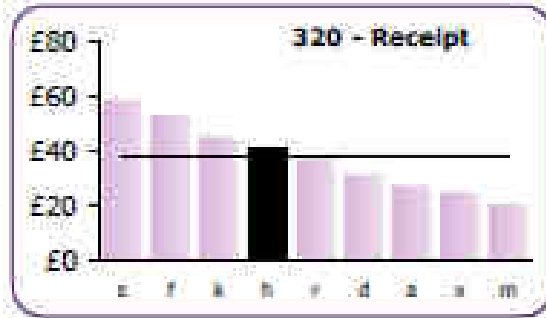
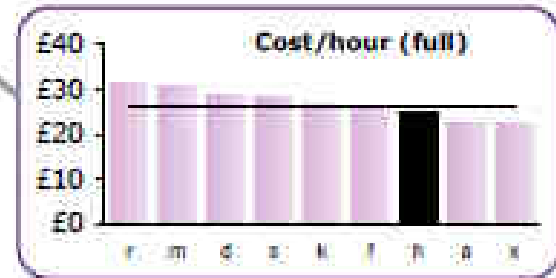
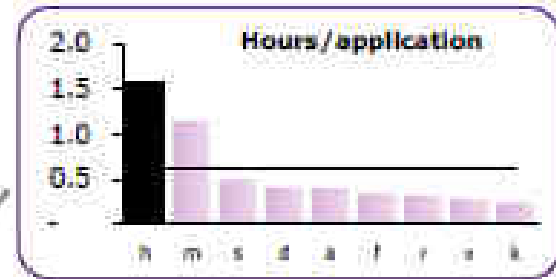
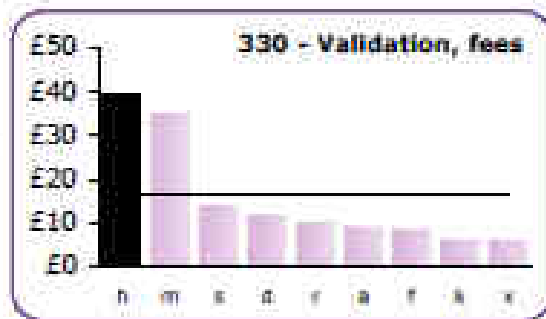
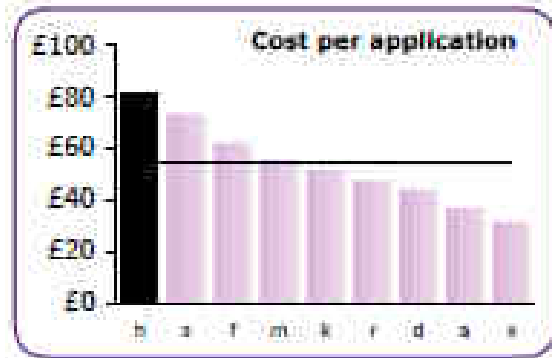
And

- Sector management of performance
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# Part 'A' – rechargeable costs

- Based on “Planning benchmark”
  - Uses 4 weeks of timesheets (not estimates)
  - Alongside local costs, uses BVACOP approach for corporate and overheads
  - Therefore will include:
    - staff costs (productive time),
      - overheads (non productive time eg leave)
      - direct costs ( postage, mileage, commissioned advice)
      - recharges (corporate costs, accommodation)
      - other overheads (ENIC and pension contributions etc)
-

320 - RECEIPT; 330 - VALIDATION, FEES  
 Cost per Application



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Dear Sir/Madam,

The Planning Advisory Service (PAS) is a national organisation created to improve planning services in England. We are always looking at ways to help councils to provide quality services. Please help us serve you better by completing this short survey. The results will be used by PAS to help your local planning authority compare their services with others and identify ways they can make improvements.

All responses will be handled in confidence and in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2000 and will be used solely in connection with the PAS survey and will not be passed to any third parties. Please send any questions to [pas@local.gov.uk](mailto:pas@local.gov.uk) or phone 020 7664 3000

PAS

### Survey questions

- a) Name of the council:  
WAVENEY COUNCIL
- b) Was your application:  
refused?   
permitted?

Please rate the following questions on a scale of 1-5, with 5 being the highest.

1. Overall how would you rate your experience of applying for planning permission this time?  
5
2. If you talked to the council before sending in your application, rate the helpfulness of any advice you received  
5
3. Did the council respond in a helpful and timely way when you contacted them?  
5
4. Were there any changes to your scheme to make it acceptable?  
yes   
no
5. Do you think the service you received was value for money?  
yes   
no
6. Is there anything else you would like to say about the service you received?  
TOP CLASS SERVICE

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## Part 'A' – rechargeable costs

Also to note those elements which remain under RSG – plan making and other planning activities will remain a legitimate cost to the community for good, well managed places (eg some enforcement)

- Repeat “these are working drafts”
-

## Part 'B' – fee breakdown

- Based on existing 'Q codes'
    - *Q1 = major major dwellings*
    - *Q2 = major major offices / R&D / industry*
    - *Q21 = householders etc*
  - Costs apportioned using hourly rate and sampling
  - Cost differences applied for different types of application
    - *Full = 100%; Outline = 80%; Condition = 5%; Retrospective = 120%*
-

## Part 'B' – fee breakdown

- Largest applications encouraged towards PPA
  - Repeat emphasis that cost differences are a product of
    - Overall cost
    - The number of applications attracting a fee
  - Does it make sense to say “fees go up by 20%” ? [no]
-



## Timescale / next steps

- PAS paper on the detail to be agreed by pilot authorities, LG group, other signatories. (16<sup>th</sup>)
  - Shared with industry reps and software
  - Submission 7<sup>th</sup> Jan.
  - Early adopters group supported through process to be ready for April 4th commencement.
  - Legal review ?
  - Second (main) group benchmark in May for July / Aug / Sep adoption.
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## Contact us

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