



Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council

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Report to	Planning Committee
Meeting date	21 st July 2025
Report author	National Planning changes ONH: Planning for Good
Agenda item	12
Report subject	Planning Policy & Legislation changes

ONH Planning for Good - ONH is a social enterprise providing a range of planning and development services to town and parish councils, neighbourhood forums, landowners and developers.

National Planning Consultations

Please note that ONH Planning for Good have forwarded some national planning consultations with deadlines coming up shortly:

1. **Speeding up build out** – 7th July

This explains the reasons why building homes after consent has been obtained can often take too long. It identifies problems stem as much from how the housing development market is structured and operates than from planning policy constraints. It tackles the issues of land banking and price-base absorption rates.

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council's response, please follow this [link](#).

2. **Reforming site thresholds** – 9th July

Part of the Government's small sites strategy by redefining SME sites into 'minor' (<10 homes or < 0.5 Ha) and 'medium' (10 - 49 homes or < 1 Ha) housing development. Sites of 50+ (or > 1Ha) are then deemed major housing development. It also defines 'very small sites' of < 0.1 Ha that it proposes to address in the new National Development Management Policy, National Model Design Code and 'Brownfield Passport' regimes.

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council's response, please follow this [link](#).

3. **Reform of Planning Committees** – 23rd July

The link to these consultations for more information and to respond to the consultations is: [Consultation frenzy: three national planning consultations with deadlines this month](#)

National Planning Changes

1. Planning Appeal Changes: Getting it Right First Time

In a major change, the government has announced that statutory consultees will no longer be able to submit additional evidence at most appeals. Getting planning representations right first time has significantly increased in importance. Follow this [link](#) for more information.

2. Neighbourhood Planning Grant Discontinued

The Government have not renewed the Neighbourhood Plan support program. Follow this [link](#) for more information.