

Planning & Development Charter

Endorsed by the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership in July 2011, the Planning and Development Charter and Action Plan for improvement, ensures that the approach to planning adopted by the Black Country is fit for purpose and 'business friendly.' Critically, it demonstrates that planning in the Black Country will support growth by facilitating and enabling private sector investment and sustainable development.

Charter Pledges

Policy Pledge:

We will develop and continue to update our development plan through the Black Country Core Strategy and other development plan documents to give clarity and certainty over development opportunities, and help inform investment decisions

Pre-Planning Advice Pledge:

We will provide you with suitable pre-planning application advice in accordance with customer's needs and commit to providing a holistic approach in providing advice

Partnership Pledge:

We will work in partnership with our customers and stakeholders to bring forward successful applications that facilitate high quality development projects across the Black Country

Scheme Deliverability and Viability:

At the earliest opportunity we will work with customers to understand their business needs and development proposals to mutually understand scheme viability and deliverability matters; giving assistance where possible to work through these matters to ensure the viability of development opportunities

Determining Planning Application Pledge:

We will work to ensure valid planning applications are determined in a comprehensive, accurate and timely manner in order to enable our customers and stakeholders to receive and be notified of the outcome of planning application decisions in the shortest period of time possible

Performance:

We will undertake regular reviews of the services we deliver by providing customers with an opportunity to give feedback and influence the way in which the LPA works. We also conduct monitoring of our performance against indicators developed in partnership with our customers

Developing in the Black Country;

the Local Planning Authorities approach

- We work in partnership with our customers and stakeholders to achieve high quality sustainable development in the Black Country
- We work in a flexible way to meet our customer's needs and where possible, be adaptable in our approach to ensure a positive outcome for both our customers and other stakeholders
- We want to enable good quality development in the Black Country that supports economic growth, and the social and environmental well being of our communities

Values & Behaviours;

the Local Planning Authorities approach

- We operate in businesslike manner and are business minded; working with our customers to understand their needs and constraints to bring forward their development proposals by adopting a businesslike approach to how we manage and deal with their planning application
- We are committed to communicating effectively with all our customers; we employ a number of accessible means for our customers to contact us regarding any development enquiry, and base our communication on a two-way open dialogue
- We work with our customers to work through challenges and constraints to ensure high quality development for all
- We adopt a 'can do' approach and willingness to explore ideas and options for development proposals with our customers
- Overall we employ a 'common sense' approach and 'customer friendly' approach to managing your development related enquiries and planning application