

Planning Performance Agreements



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Camden is committed to working in partnership with organisations to enable economic growth which benefits both developers and the people of Camden. We are focused on the delivery of new homes, new jobs and new facilities which provide for everyone and foster the creation of mixed and balanced communities.

One way to achieve this is through the use of Planning Performance Agreements (PPAs).

What is a PPA?



Planning performance agreements set out an approach designed to take a development proposal from conception to delivery. They are designed to provide quality and timely advice which helps shape projects, giving developers the best chance of gaining approval.

Approach

This approach works best when developers come forward to share their vision with us as early as possible in the process. This allows us to work alongside you to shape a programme which will deliver on a shared vision for high quality development in Camden.

A real strength of our PPA service is that it is built on the role we can play, both as experts on the local planning system and our thorough understanding of the needs of local communities and other stakeholders. The Camden Design Review panel, an independent and impartial panel of built environment professionals, can at our request offer additional expert design advice to applicants.

Principles

While each PPA is bespoke in design, we are guided by a set of principles which ensure that all developers are offered a high quality, value for money service:

- Identification of key planning considerations allowing issues to be addressed up-front in the process by drawing in experts across the council and elsewhere

- Development of a programme stating project deliverables across the life cycle of the development, including, where applicable, target dates for the project to be heard at planning committee.

- Development of an engagement strategy to ensure that the views of key stakeholders are fully understood and taken into consideration. This would include meetings with the local community and councillors.

- A dedicated point of contact, who will act as a 'go-to' person within the authority and take responsibility for delivering on the aims of the PPA.

Which types of development can a PPA be used for?

Major developments

We understand that delivering major developments is a complex business and that successfully gaining planning permission is only one element of the overall delivery of the project. This is why our approach to PPAs is based on considering the whole development cycle.

In practice this means we will design a PPA which will also ensure all post-approval matters, like discharge of conditions, are dealt with in a timely fashion. We will also work closely with the council's legal team and other departments to ensure section 106 agreements are progressed as efficiently as possible.

Sizeable property portfolios

We work with organisations who have sizeable property portfolios in Camden to provide them with a dedicated 'link officer'. This officer acts as a point of contact within the service, and meets with them on a regular basis to discuss

the organisation's development aspirations and/or planning related queries. The link officer also takes a lead on ensuring any planning applications submitted are dealt with in a timely fashion.

Smaller developments with shorter turnaround times

We also offer PPAs for small scale developments if a developer feels they would benefit from the certainty offered by the PPA approach. For instance, these may be useful to householders who want to be able to plan work on the basis that they have a decision guaranteed by a certain date.



How does a developer set up a PPA?

Contact:

planning@camden.gov.uk to begin a discussion about your requirements. If a PPA is appropriate we will invite you in for an inception/scoping meeting where a high level project and resourcing plan will be agreed, alongside a discussion about pricing.



