

Planning and Development Management

Fast Track and Pre-Application team

About:

Barnet is the first Local Planning Authority to launch a premium planning service to fast track the administration and processing of planning applications. The service was developed in advance of the government consulting in early 2016 to expand this service to other Local Planning Authorities in England.



What is the team responsible for?

The team deals with accelerated planning and pre-applications ranging in complexity from Barnet residents and businesses. We are one of the busiest (and fastest) Local Planning Authorities in London and the only one to offer this service in the whole country!



How many people are in the Fast Track and Pre-Application team?

We started as a very small team with only one planning officer! At present we have 5 planning officers, with more joining us in the next few months and we hope to grow the team even more in 2018.



What are the benefits of using the Fast Track services?

Our fast track services provide a range of benefits not only to the local authority, but to local residents and developers.

- Accelerated administration and review of all types of planning applications and pre-application submissions, including the provision of meeting notes
- Allows work to begin on a project more quickly
- Having more knowns than unknowns at the earliest opportunity
- Planning conditions can be discharged in 1-working day, rather than 8-weeks
- Services can be tailored to suit the needs of the customer



Describe a typical day for the Fast Track and Pre-Application team

No two days are the same. Due to the nature of the service, we have to be flexible to the customer's needs and often accommodate an accelerated application at short notice. Our days will often include several meetings, either in our offices or on site, to discuss the viability of development. We are in frequent communication with applicants and representatives, providing a clear indication on whether development is suitable or not.

Our planning assistant deals with initial enquiries and liaises with planning teams to ensure services are delivered.

Tell us something that people may not know about the Fast Track and Pre-Application team

We shouldn't be trusted with the office plants- we're too busy to water them!

What is the proudest moment for the team?

As a team, we are proud to have received acknowledgment for our efforts from Senior Management and for breaking our monthly income record. In addition, receiving continuous recognition of our efforts from clients makes it all worthwhile.

About Re:

Regional Enterprise Ltd (Re) is the joint venture between the London Borough of Barnet and Capita.

Our innovative commercial model was set up in 2013 and brings together the best of public and private sector delivery. Together we are providing new ways to deliver services for our customers to help meet the needs of local communities



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