



*Review of Communities and  
Local Government Consent  
Regimes*

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In March 2006 The Cabinet Office and this Department, then ‘The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister’ (ODPM), published a report entitled ‘Consent Regimes – Reducing Unnecessary Bureaucracy’.

In the report, Ministers committed to undertaking a ‘stock take’ to establish how many Consent Regimes this Department had policy responsibility for, to review the relevance of these Consent Regimes to current policies and issue guidance to Local Authorities to improve the efficiency and clarity of the process of seeking consent from the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.

The review was conducted with the assistance of Policy Officials from across the Department and the Government Offices for the Regions and identified the 41 Consent Regimes within the Department’s policy portfolio. 9 of these Consents (highlighted below) were found to be redundant pieces of legislation that are no longer used and which will be removed once a suitable legislative vehicle is identified.

Policy Officials responsible for the ‘live’ consents will consider what action is necessary, if any, to repeal or simplify the process and will take forward the Ministerial commitments to:

- Conducting regular reviews of the remaining consent regimes to assess their validity and appropriateness,
- Produce better guidance to local authorities on the process of applying for consent,
- Giving local authorities faster decisions and clear target timescales on when a decision can be expected from government departments.

For further information on the Communities and Local Government Review of Consent Regimes please contact:

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	Description of consent regime
CLG 1	Power to consent to the delegation of housing management to an agent
CLG 2	Approval of new parishes and boundary changes to existing parishes
CLG 3	Provision by local authorities of advice and assistance to overseas bodies
CLG 4	Confirmation of byelaws
CLG 5	Certain minority interests in certain companies
CLG 6	Revocation /modification of consents under tree preservation orders made before August 1999
CLG 7	Approval for a local authority and other public bodies to refuse to renew a commercial lease (or curtail its length on renewal)
CLG 8	A power to consent to the sale or appropriation of statutory allotment land, or its use for other purposes
CLG 9	A power to approve a local authority Cash Incentive Scheme
CLG 10	Three powers to approve a various arrangements for houses of defective types.
CLG 11	A Power relating to housing renovation grants: - to consent to the application of additional conditions (during the period of grant works only) to a grant; and - to approve the application of a specific "required proportion" of flats in a block in order to qualify for a common parts grant for the block.
CLG 12	A consent to allow LAs to add a condition to a grant to demand repayment in cases of compensation awards.
CLG 13	Two powers to approve various arrangements relating to housing renewal
CLG 14	Housing Act 1985, s294 Extinguishment of Public rights of way over land acquired under s 290 (land acquired for clearance)
CLG 15	Two controls over advertisement displays and their revocation or modification.
CLG 16	One control over Areas of Special Control of Advertisements (ASCAs)
CLG 17	A power ("Article 4 Direction") to consent to withdrawal of permitted development rights.
CLG 18	A power to consent to various planning matters in respect of the local planning authority itself, other than "planning permission to develop land"
CLG 19	Three powers to confirm various orders revoking, modifying or otherwise affecting existing planning permissions or existing uses of land or existing buildings or works.
CLG 20	A power to confirm orders revoking or modifying listed building consent.
CLG 21	A power to approve Industrial Improvement Areas
CLG 22	A power to consent to capitalisation of redundancy costs. Also for commutation losses, pension fund contributions, equal pay, accrual of interest, and rent allowances.

CLG 23	22 powers to confirm compulsory purchase orders for various purposes.
CLG 24	A power to consent to the disposal of land at less than best price
CLG 25	Consent to the disposal of council-owned Housing and housing land
CLG 26	Approval for a higher limit on the expenditure eligible for grant reinstatement works to a house of a designated defective type.
CLG 27	Notice of a resolution to designate locally a class of buildings as defective.
CLG 28	Approval for a scheme to assist an owner under a shared ownership lease of a defective house
CLG 29	Consent to local authority assistance for privately let housing
CLG 30	Approval for applying a specific "required proportion" of flats in a block in order to qualify for a common parts grant for the block
CLG 31	Approval of right of way extinguishment orders
CLG 32	sections 219 and 220 of the Housing Act 1996
CLG 33	section 33 Housing Act 1985 imposing certain covenants and conditions in disposals of land under section 32.
CLG 34	Confirmation of a notice stating that permission will cease to have effect after a further specified period.
CLG 35	Confirmation of orders revoking or modifying planning permission (where a person affected objects to the order).
CLG 36	Confirmation of orders requiring any use of land to be discontinued or buildings or works already completed to be altered or removed.
CLG 37	Controls over Outdoor Advertisement Displays - "Regulation 7 Direction"
CLG 38	Confirmation of Byelaws for lodging houses
CLG 39	Completion Notices
CLG 40	Restrictive Covenants
CLG 41	PROD (Public Right to Order Disposal)