

From: John, Peredur (SPF&P - Cabinet Division) **On Behalf Of** PS Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development
Sent: 25 September 2012 12:47
To: HARRIS, Carl; Jones, Stephen M (ESH - Planning)
Cc: PS Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development
Subject: RE: URGENT: Sainsbury's Planning Applications, Llandeilo and Cross Hands

Carl

I can confirm that the Welsh Ministers were asked to

- (i) call in the application for planning permission for the Llandeilo site by The Co-operative, Jonathan Edwards MP, William Powell AM, Rhodri Glyn Thomas AM and almost 30 members of the public;
- (ii) call in the application for planning permission for the Cross Hands site by The Co-operative and 3 members of the public.

Both applications were referred to the Welsh Government by Carmarthenshire County Council in accordance with the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (Shopping Development) (England and Wales) (No.2) Direction 1993.

Under the provisions of the Direction applications for retail development which comprises or includes the provision of

- “(a) gross shopping floorspace of not less than 20,000 square metres; or
- (b) gross shopping floorspace of not less than 2,500 square metres but of less than 20,000 square metres which will exceed 20,000 square metres when aggregated with gross shopping floorspace of not less than 2,500 square metres which is comprised of or included in any other development of land –
 - (i) in respect of which an application for planning permission has been made but not finally determined on the date an application to which this direction applies is made;
 - (ii) in respect of which planning permission has been granted within the period of 5 years immediately preceding that date;
 - (iii) substantially completed within the period of 5 years immediately preceding that date”

shall be referred to the Welsh Government. The development mentioned in sub-paragraphs (i) to (iii) above must be situated within a radius of 10 miles from any part of the development which is the subject of an application to which the direction applies.

The purpose of the Directive – which was cancelled on 30 July this year – was to provide the Welsh Ministers with the opportunity to consider whether they wished to call in relevant applications for their own determination.

Irrespective of how an application comes before the Welsh Ministers for the consideration of call in – whether through requests made by individuals or organisations or through referral by local planning authorities (eg under the previous Shopping Direction or under the new Town and Country Planning (Notification) (Wales) Direction 2012) the criteria against which each application is considered are those outlined in Planning Policy Wales.

Steve

Steve Jones

Cangen Benderfyniadau – Decisions Branch

Yr Is-adran Gynllunio – Planning Division

Llywodraeth Cymru – Welsh Government

From: HARRIS, Carl
Sent: 25 September 2012 11:56
To: Jones, Stephen M (ESH - Planning)
Cc: PS Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development
Subject: URGENT: Sainsbury's Planning Applications, Llandeilo and Cross Hands

Dear Stephen Jones,

Thank you for your time on the telephone just now. I am very grateful.

As discussed I would be grateful if you could provide me with the list of people (excluding individuals as you noted) who requested for planning applications E/25041 and S/23696 to be called-in. I would appreciate these names listed separately for each of the two applications.

Secondly, I would be grateful if you could clarify my understanding of the calling-in of applications in relation to the Shopping Directive.

Am I correct in saying that the Shopping Directive, which now no longer exists, only applied to planning applications over a certain floor size, and that the purpose of the Directive was to allow Welsh Ministers time to consider whether they wanted to call-in the planning application or not?

Furthermore, am I correct in saying that the same criteria which is used to consider the calling-in of a planning application is applied to the applications irrespective of whether they are presented via the Shopping Directive or requested by an individual or politician?

Many thanks in advance of your assistance.
I look forward to hearing from you later this morning.

Kind regards,
Carl

Carl J. Harris

Cynorthwydd Seneddol / Parliamentary Assistant

Ar ran/On behalf of Jonathan Edwards AS/MP
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