

Objecting to a Planning Application

The County Council allows people to present to the Development Control and Regulation Committee their objections to planning applications.

This leaflet tells you
how to go about it.



What kind of planning application does the scheme apply to?

All applications which are to be determined by the Development Control and Regulation Committee of Cumbria County Council. These are for:

- Mineral workings and waste management facilities such as quarries, landfill sites or waste incinerators
- The County Council's own developments.

It does not apply to applications on which the County Council is a consultee, or to other items of business on the agenda.

The Committee consists of 18 elected members, and normally meets once a month in **Kendal**.

Which objectors will be allowed to speak?

Any person (or representative on their behalf) objecting to a planning application. However, objectors should, if possible:

- Make their objections in writing; they will be summarised in the Committee Report and made available for members to read;
- Form groups where there is a common view and appoint a single spokesperson.

Who else will be allowed to speak?

In all cases where an objector speaks, the applicant will be offered the opportunity to reply to the points made. An applicant will not be allowed a hearing if no objectors are to speak.

Only one representative for the applicant will be heard except with the permission of the Chairman at the meeting. The applicant (or representative) shall confine his or her presentation to factual information or to commenting on the points made by objectors.

Who will not be allowed to speak?

- Supporters of an application, as the applicant will be invited to address the Committee;
- Consultees, although their views will be clearly set out in the Committee Report (see note below for Local Councils).

How long can people speak for?

A balance has to be struck between the length of time allowed for objectors to speak and the efficient conduct of the Committee's business. No objector or applicant (or their representative) will be allowed to speak for more than five minutes, other than in exceptional circumstances and with the permission of the Chairman.

Will there be more than one opportunity to speak?

The opportunity to speak will normally only be allowed at the meeting which decides whether or not permission should be granted. If the Committee postpones its decision, no objector or applicant will be allowed to address the Committee again at a subsequent meeting, but their views will be considered.

What's the procedure if I want to speak at committee meetings?

Before the Meeting:

- If you wish to be heard in person (or through your representative) you should contact the Member Services Unit (see overleaf) at the earliest opportunity.
Requests to speak received less than three working days before the meeting will not be allowed.
- You will be given details of the Committee meeting and a copy of the relevant section of the committee report.
- The County Councillor local to the site of the application will be told that you wish to address the Committee.

At the Meeting:

- Both you and the applicant will be allocated seats in the committee room before the meeting starts.
- Other objectors not speaking will be directed to the public gallery.

- You will be invited to address the Committee following the presentation of the committee report on the relevant application.
- With the Chairman's permission, you and the applicant may be questioned by members of the Committee or by officers about the points you have made.
- After an application has been considered by members, you and the applicant will leave the committee room.

Requests from Local Councils

This procedure is not applicable to handling representations from local councils. When a Parish or District Council requests the opportunity to discuss a planning application with the Committee, a site visit will normally be arranged to which they will be invited and allowed to put their views. These views will be considered by members when they determine the application at a subsequent meeting of the Committee.

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If, after reading this leaflet, you wish to clarify any aspect of an application, please contact the **case officer** in the Environment Unit (Economy, Culture and Environment Directorate) of the County Council.

Telephone: 01539 773421

Remember, if you wish to present your views in person you should, at the earliest opportunity, and certainly not later than three working days before the relevant Committee meeting, tell the Member Services Unit:

Telephone: 01228 226376

Fax: 01228 606372

or write to the following address:

**Nicola Phillips
Development Control and
Regulation Committee
Member Services & Scrutiny Unit
The Courts
Carlisle
CA3 8NA**