**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – invitation to comment on proposed changes to planning validation list**

Since 2008 local planning authorities have been required to publish a list of information they require to “validate” the planning applications they receive. This Validation List forms two components:

* the national requirements, including the application form, the fee, certificates etc, and secondly;
* specific local validation requirements known as the “Local List”. The Council last adopted its validation requirements in March 2022.

The Government requires local planning authorities to operate a “local list” which is **no more than two years old.** In addition, since 2022, there have been a number of changes to planning legislation, policy and guidance and it is therefore considered timely to review the County Council’s current validation requirements.  A proposed updated list has been produced for consultation and I am writing to invite you to make comments on the proposed changes.  The proposed draft Validation Guidance (with the proposed changes shown in red) can be viewed at

[www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/planning-applications/pre-application-advice/apply-for-planning-permission](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/planning-applications/pre-application-advice/apply-for-planning-permission)?

The main changes proposed include:

* Update of the document to take on board the new requirements in relation to Biodiversity Net Gain,
* Updates relating to the latest version of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and revisions/updates to other referenced documents and weblinks,
* Reference to Active Travel England’s Toolkit for use on relevant applications,
* Inclusion of New schools’ guidance for developers and the inclusion of a statement stating that the Council will expect new schools to be located where the impact of drop-off/pick-up of school children on local residents can be minimised.

**The proposed Validation Guidance is open for consultation until 5th February 2024.**

Should you wish to make comments you may submit them by 5pm on 5th February 2024 in two ways:

* Preferably by email to development.management@nottscc.gov.uk
* Or by letter to Nottinghamshire County Council, Development Management Team, County Hall, Loughborough Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP

After this consultation period, the County Council will consider all the comments received and amend the Validation Guidance as appropriate. The final Guidance Note on the Validation of Planning Applications will then be taken to the County Council’s Planning and Rights of Way Committee for approval. Once approved this will replace the current Validation Guidance and will form the basis on which applications are deemed valid by the County Council.