

Perth and Kinross Council Development Management Newsletter in Relation to the Coronavirus Outbreak

Issued 27th March 2020

Our office is closed to the public and to staff. This will continue for the duration of any government-imposed “lockdown” measure and will only open again once advice has been given that it is safe and appropriate to do so. As a result, we are working with significantly reduced resources and our service is affected in the following ways:

- We are unable to receive or process paper applications. We apologise for this inconvenience and will ensure any applications received during this time are dealt with on our return to the office.
- We are unable to receive or process paper letters of representation. Comments should be submitted via Public Access in the first instance or, where there is an issue with this, via our generic email address developmentmanagement@pkc.gov.uk . Please remember to include reference numbers.
- We are unable to take payments through our telephone payment system, via cash or via debit / credit card in our office. We are, however, still able to accept BACS payments. Payment can still be made through the eDevelopment Portal at time of submission.
- Our Business Support Team has restricted network access during peak times, ensuring business continuity for critical council services. This may result in e-mail contact at unusual times. This will also result in a delay in the time it takes to process documentation electronically.
- Any suspected breach of planning control should be submitted via our website: <https://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/15035/Planning-enforcement> by clicking on the 'Report a Breach' form and providing the requested details. We would request that photographs are provided in your submission, as our ability to visit sites is extremely limited.
- We will focus our resources on the statutory parts of the planning process and therefore general and pre-application enquiries may take longer to respond to that we would like. We will respond as soon as we are able.

In terms of processing planning applications, we are for the moment concentrating on delegated items which have seen public notification periods expire on or before Wednesday 18th March. The Scottish Government is working with all local planning authorities to find an acceptable route for processing more recent applications and those that would normally be Committee items. We will update you as soon as possible.

Whilst we are working at a reduced capacity, we will still endeavour to assist where we can. Should you require assistance please e-mail us at developmentmanagement@pkc.gov.uk