



Updated Planning Briefing Note – October 2023

UPDATED Discretionary Planning Fees (Phase 1) for Energy, Transmission, and Infrastructure Development

I refer to my previous briefing of 2 October 2023 when I set out the Planning Service's proposals for discretionary planning fees which launched this week.

I wanted to provide an update to advise that some of the charges outlined in my previous briefing note have been changed. This is due to further advice being obtained on the application of VAT for discretionary services. Consequently, the charges have been reduced to remove the VAT element. VAT will only apply to the services for pre-application advice.

The Council website has been updated with all the information required relating to the new charges and services, including the forms and how to pay. Please get in touch with the Planning Service if you have any questions about starting or continuing with pre-application advice where a fee will now apply.

If you have any questions about the discretionary fees mentioned you can contact myself using the contact details above, or Wendy Forbes, Team Manager for the Strategic Development Delivery Team – wendy.forbes@aberdeenshire.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Mairi Stewart

Mairi Stewart
Planning Service Manager

Discretionary Fees

A link to the fees on the Council website can be viewed [here](#)

Category of development	Fee Payable
<p><u>Pre-application advice</u> (for large scale energy, transmission and infrastructure development)</p> <p>Advice, written evaluation, consultee input, site visit, EIA scoping, meeting/workshop, and review meetings. Refer to pre-application advice guidance for process.</p>	£7200 (£6000 plus VAT)
<p><u>Non-material variation</u> (for large scale energy, transmission and infrastructure development)</p> <p>Target Response – 28 days from receipt/validation</p>	£200 per request
<p><u>Discharge of conditions or compliance with conditions</u> (for large scale energy, transmission and infrastructure development).</p> <p>Target Response – 3 months from receipt/validation</p> <p>Refer to the priority service for more time critical developments.</p>	£100 per request

Category of development	Fee Payable
<p><u>Priority Determination Service</u> (for large scale energy, transmission and infrastructure development).</p> <p>For time critical developments</p> <p>This is an enhanced processing agreement to project manage the consenting process to guarantee a determination date. This service applies to planning applications and S36/S37 consultations under the Electricity Acts.</p>	50% of statutory fee.
<p><u>Priority discharge of conditions or compliance with conditions</u> (for large scale energy, transmission and infrastructure development).</p> <p>For time critical developments</p> <p>Target Response - 6 weeks</p>	<p>£5000 for first request.</p> <p>£2500 for additional requests thereafter</p>

Surcharges

Category of development	Fee Payable
<p><u>Retrospective applications</u> (for large scale energy, transmission and infrastructure development)</p>	Statutory fee plus 25%.