A guide to linking to building control

Overview

The Planning Portal delivers a building control application service which allows users to apply for building regulations approval online to a building control body.

By linking to the building control application service, advice and tools on the Planning Portal you can be confident that the information you are directing your customers to is current and accurate.

Recommended Planning Portal links and content

The following sections provide recommended links to our content for you to add to your local authority website, any additional links to us are welcome. We have also provided supporting text should you wish to use it. The links have been carefully selected to complement existing local authority content and improve the customer's user journey which in turn will steer many enquiries away from your building control team. Tips are also included in each section to get the most out of linking to our service.

Free resources

We can offer your local authority free resources for you to use on your website. The resources include an email signature, images, buttons, logos and recommendations for anchor links and alt text. Click here to download our resource pack.

Help and support for local authorities

If you require any additional advice or support you can email the details of your enquiry to communications@planningportal.co.uk or visit our website to find the contact details of our Business Development Team.

Duplicating our content

Search engines have highly sophisticated methods for deciding on the authority of a website's content. Duplicating content and republishing it on your site could cause problems with the way search engines view your site. You are welcome to use our content but recommend that you link to Planning Portal's own pages rather than republishing our information, this will also mean that you can be confident the information is current and your site will requires less site maintenance.

Content for local authority websites

Section One: Planning Portal homepage   www.planningportal.co.uk/

The Planning Portal is the national planning and building application service and works in partnership with every local authority across England. The Portal makes planning and building information, applications and services simpler and more accessible. Using the Planning Portal is the preferred way to submit your building control or planning application to us. Visit www.planningportal.co.uk

> **LPA tips:**
>
> Use the Portal logo to accompany the link to our homepage, the button can be found here:
>
> **https://ecab.planningportal.co.uk/uploads/lpa-resource-pack.zip**

Section Two: Make a building control application   buildingcontrol.planningportal.co.uk/

As well as planning applications, you can also submit a building control application online with the Planning Portal.
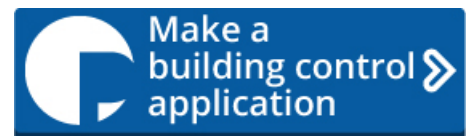
Using the Planning Portal is the preferred way to submit your application to us (https://buildingcontrol.planningportal.co.uk/)
Registration is easy and you can complete your application form, buy site location plans and upload supporting documents.

The benefits of applying online include:

- You can work on your applications in draft before submission

- Immediate delivery and acknowledgement

- Savings on postage and printing costs

- Online help function when completing applications

- Online record of your completed applications

Get started on the Planning Portal. (https://buildingcontrol.planningportal.co.uk/)

> **LPA tips:**
>
> If you are directing users to our building control service, ensure you link to **https://buildingcontrol.planningportal.co.uk/** If you would like to use one link to direct to both our planning and building services, ensure you use the link **www.planningportal.co.uk/apply**. This will ensure users start in exactly the right place in the application process.

Transforming planning and building

Building control plans & maps   www.requestaplan.co.uk

Most building control applications for the erection or extension of a building require a location plan or a site plan (also known as a block plan), to be submitted as a supporting document.

We recommend buying your plan from the Planning Portal's ReQuestaPlan service. The service has been through a rigorous process to make sure that the maps meet the necessary standards, that the website is easy to use and that there is a good customer support in place should you need it. All of this means you are one step closer to submitting a complete application.

Help & Support   www.planningportal.co.uk/help

Use the Planning Portal help centre to support you with completing your online application. You can use the help centre if you encounter a problem filling out an application or have a query with how to use the Portal website.

LPA tips:

Make sure that it is clear to users that they still need to contact you if they have a question relating to the application or their development and provide contact details.

PortalPlanQuest

Section Three: Approved Documents   www.planningportal.co.uk/approved_documents

Building regulations are minimum standards for design, construction and alterations to virtually every building. Find information and advice about building regulations and access current Approved Documents for England and Wales on the Planning Portal.

Approved Documents for England   www.planningportal.co.uk/approved_documents

Apply for building regulations approval   buildingcontrol.planningportal.co.uk/

Professional Portal   www.planningportal.co.uk/professional_portal

The Professional Portal is a hub of tools, services and guidance for those working in the planning and building industry.

Here you will find signposts to select areas of the Planning Portal that have been designed to help you plan and manage your project in an easy and accessible way.

Homeowner projects   www.planningportal.co.uk/commonprojects

The Planning Portal's interactive guides provide building and planning information relating to houses, terraced houses, shops and flats as well as many common householder projects, in England.

Explore the Planning Portal interactive guides
https://interactive.planningportal.co.uk/

The Planning Portal has lots of information covering a wide range of common homeowner projects and the building regulations guidance.

Extensions	www.planningportal.co.uk/buildingregulations/extension
Outbuildings	www.planningportal.co.uk/buildingregulations/outbuildings
Change of use	www.planningportal.co.uk/buildingregulations/change_of_use
Conservatories	www.planningportal.co.uk/buildingregulations/conservatory
Loft conversion	www.planningportal.co.uk/buildingregulations/loftconversion
Fences, gates & walls	www.planningportal.co.uk/buildingregulations/fences_gates_walls
Doors & windows	www.planningportal.co.uk/buildingregulations/windows
Garage conversions	www.planningportal.co.uk/buildingregulations/garage
Patio and driveways	www.planningportal.co.uk/buildingregulations/patio
Roof	www.planningportal.co.uk/buildingregulations/roof