



Localism Act 2011

2011 CHAPTER 20

PART 6

PLANNING

CHAPTER 6

NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

137 Acceptance of applications for development consent

- (1) The Planning Act 2008 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 55(3) (conditions for acceptance of application) omit paragraphs (b) and (d) (application may be accepted only if it complies with requirements as to form and contents and with any standards set, and gives reasons for any failure to follow applicable guidance).
- (3) In section 55(3) after paragraph (e) insert “, and
 - (f) that the application (including accompaniments) is of a standard that the Secretary of State considers satisfactory.”
- (4) In section 55 after subsection (5) insert—
 - “(5A) The Secretary of State, when deciding whether the Secretary of State may reach the conclusion in subsection (3)(f), must have regard to the extent to which—
 - (a) the application complies with the requirements in section 37(3) (form and contents of application) and any standards set under section 37(5), and
 - (b) any applicable guidance given under section 37(4) has been followed in relation to the application.”

Changes to legislation: Localism Act 2011, Section 137 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

- (5) In section 37(3) (requirements as to form and contents of application) after “must” insert “, so far as necessary to secure that the application (including accompaniments) is of a standard that the Secretary of State considers satisfactory”.

Commencement Information

II S. 137 in force at 1.4.2012 by [S.I. 2012/628](#), [art. 7\(a\)](#)

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 158(8)-(9B) substituted for s. 158(8)(9) by [2016 c. 22 s. 121\(2\)\(e\)](#)
- s. 202(3A) inserted by [2023 c. 55 s. 176\(2\)](#)