



PUBLIC ACCESS FOR PLANNING: A USER GUIDE

APRIL 2025

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INTRODUCTION

The Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk's e-Planning service means you can view, track and comment on planning applications online. You have convenient access to planning information online 24/7.

You can view the Council's Public Access System using this link – Simple Search.

You can also access the system on Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk website homepage, under Planning and Development – Comment on Planning Applications.

Registration is not compulsory. Anyone can use the Public Access site but registering a user account gives you access to the full benefits, including:

- Tracking applications
- Saving searches
- Receiving email notifications about tracked applications

Copyright

Plans, drawings and material such as comments, are protected by copyright.

You can only download or print planning material:

- For consultation purposes
- To compare current applications with previous schemes
- To check whether developments have been completed in accordance with approved plans

You cannot make further copies without permission from the copyright owner. The copyright owner's name will be on the plans.

ACCOUNT DETAILS

Registration

Setting up and registering your account requires your name and relevant contact details.

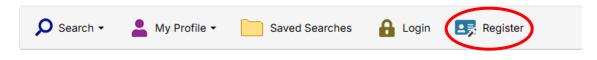
You can access Public Access on our website, by going to the Planning & Development section > View & Track Planning Applications. You can also use the below link.

Simple Search

1. To create a new user account, click on **Register** in the menu bar.



Home > Planning and development > Planning applications > Comment on a planning application > Online applic



- 2. Fill in the following fields with your information. Then click **Next**.
 - *Please note, passwords must be between 8 and 24 characters, must contain an upper-case letter, lower case letter, a number and must not contain spaces.

Registration

Once registered the following additional functionality will be available:

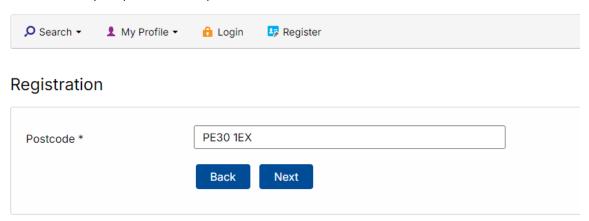
- Tracking applications
- Saving Searches
- Email notifications about tracked applications and new search results.

Fields marked with a * must be completed.

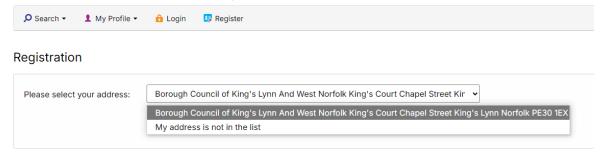
First Name * Surname * Phone Number A confirmation email will be sent to the email address you provide below. Email Address *
Surname * Phone Number A confirmation email will be sent to the email address you provide below.
Surname * Phone Number A confirmation email will be sent to the email address you provide below.
Phone Number A confirmation email will be sent to the email address you provide below.
A confirmation email will be sent to the email address you provide below.
Fmail Address *
Email Address *
2.mail / rear eco
Confirm Email Address *
Your password must be between 8 and 24 characters long, contain at least one uppercase, one lowercase and one numeric character.
Password *
Confirm Password *
Next
Next

ļ

3. Enter your postcode and press Next.

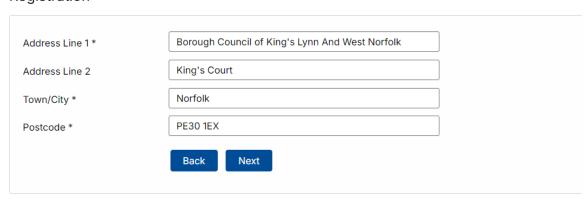


4. Select your address from the drop down list, then press Next.



- 5. If your address is not shown, select My address is not on the list and click on Next.
- 6. Fill in your address details and press Next.

Registration



7. You will be asked to check your details and be prompted to read the Terms and Conditions and Privacy documents. To read these click on the link. When you have done so, tick the check box to indicate that you agree to them and click **Next**.



8. A registration email will be sent to the email address you provided. Click the link in the email to complete the registration process and activate your account.

To confirm your registration please click the following link:

 $\underline{https://online.west-norfolk.gov.uk/online-applications/registrationComplete.do?action=createUser\&key=5632fa76c6383c03d0c9865a5699ec93$

If required you can also copy the link to the address field of your browser.

Please Logon with the username and password you originally selected.

9. Click the **Confirm** button to confirm your account. You can now use your login details to log into Public Access.

Account Creation Confirmation

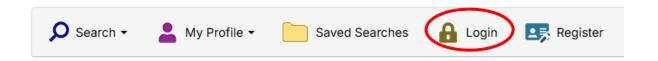
Please click the Confirm button to confirm the creation of your account.



Logging In

To get access to the full range of features in Public Access, you will need to log in using the email and password used to register your account.

1. Click **Login** on the menu tab.



2. Enter your email address and password, then click on the **Login** button.

Login



Forgotten Password

1. If you have forgotten your password, click the **Forgotten Password?** link on the login page.

Login

Previous page

Not registered? Register here

Email Address

Password

Login

- 2. Enter your email and create a new password. You will need to enter it twice. Click the **Change Password** button.
- 3. An email will be sent your email address, to confirm the new password change. Click on the link in the email to open the Idox confirmation page.
- 4. Click the **Confirm** button to confirm your new password.

Password Change Confirmation

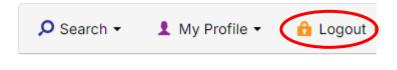
6 Forgotten Password?

Please click the Confirm button to confirm your new password.



Logging Out

1. When you are finished using Public Access, remember to log out by clicking on the **Logout** button in the menu bar.



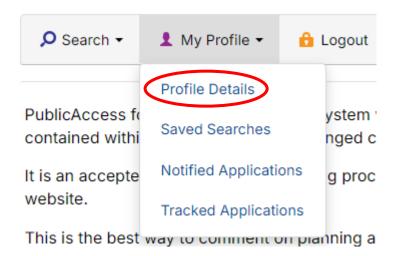
PublicAccess for Planning is an online system vaccetained within the system can be changed or

YOUR PROFILE

Profile Details

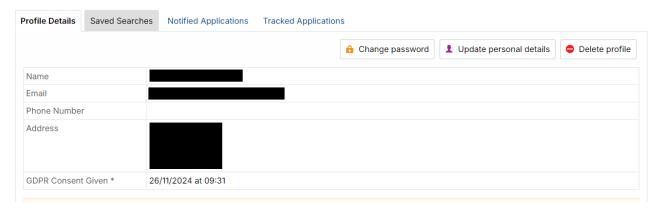
Once your account has been created, you can access your **My Profile** area. This area allows you to update your personal details, change your password, or delete your profile. It also allows you to manage your saved searches, notified application requests, and tracked applications.

1. To view your profile, you will need to login then select **My Profile > Profile Details** on the drop down menu.



2. This page allows you to view the details you registered with. You can update these details or change your password (click the **Change Password** button and follow the steps for **Forgotten Password** on Page 7).

My Profile - Profile Details



- To change your details, click on Update Personal Details. Amend your details as required. Click the Next button to move through the sections.
 - Please note if you update the email address linked to your account, you will receive a confirmation email. You will need to click on the link to confirm the change.
- 4. If you wish to delete your profile, click **Delete Profile**.

Saved Searches

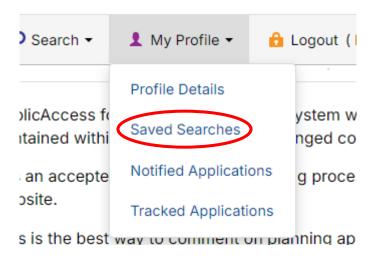
Searches that you would like to perform regularly can be saved, so you can easily repeat them as often as you like.

For guidance on saving a search, please refer to Page 21.

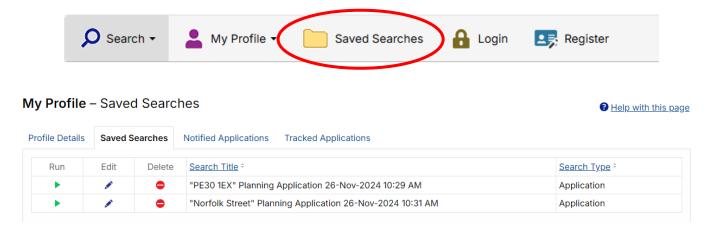
You will receive notifications if there are any changes to the applications that appear in your saved search, or if any new applications are submitted.

Notifications are listed in the **Notified Applications** Page. You will also receive a notification email.

1. To view your saved searches, select Saved Searches from the My Profile drop-down list.



You can also access your saved searches by using the button on the menu bar.



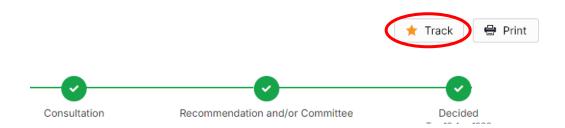
- 2. You can sort the list by clicking on the heading of each column. It will list the searches in that column alphabetically.
- 3. To perform a saved search, click the green arrow **Run** button.
- 4. To modify a search, select the **Edit** pencil. This takes you to the search page and allows you to change the details of that search.
- 5. To remove a search from the list, click the red **Delete** button.

Tracking an Application

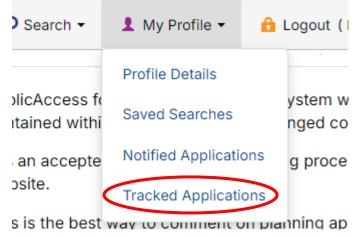
If you find an application you are interested in, you can keep up to date with it by tracking it. You will be notified of any changes made to the application, for example, a change in status or if a decision is made.

1. To track an application, run a search and view the details of the specific application you would like to monitor. Click the **Track** button.

g's Lynn Norfolk PE30 1EX



2. To view your tracked applications, click **Tracked Applications** from the **My Profile** drop down list.



My Profile - Tracked Applications Help with this page Profile Details Saved Searches **Notified Applications Tracked Applications** View Stop Tracking Reference \$ Address : Type ≎ Status : G 24/01249/A W H Smith And Post Office 7 Norfolk Street King's Lynn Norfolk PE30 1AR Application Application Permitted G 23/01182/A Kudos 22 Norfolk Street King's Lynn Norfolk PE30 1AN Withdrawn Application

- 3. You can order your list by clicking any of the headings. It will sort the relevant column into alphabetical order.
- 4. To view the details of a tracked application, click on the **View** button.
- 5. To remove an application from the tracked list, click on the red **Cross** in the Stop Tracking column.

SEARCHING

It is quick and easy to search for planning applications on Public Access. You can search using different information and through a variety of methods.

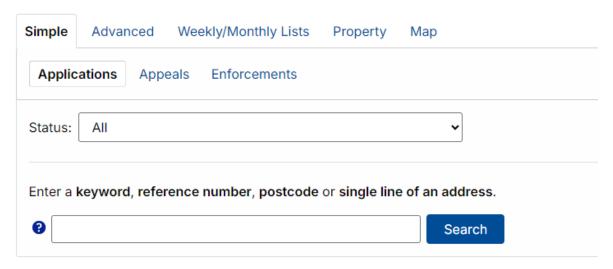
- Simple Search quick search using keywords, reference numbers or address data
- Advanced search using a combination of factors
- Weekly/Monthly Lists produces a list for applications that have been validated or decided in a particular week or month
- Property search for a particular property
- Map search using an interactive map

Simple Search

A simple search is the easiest way to find information. You can search for planning applications, appeals and Enforcement cases. You can search by a keyword, the application reference, or the single line of an address. This could be a street name or postcode.

Please note, the information you input must have sufficient detail. If you search for something too broad (e.g. King's Lynn), the system will prompt you to enter more parameters.

- 1. When you open Public Access, it will load the Simple Search page. You can also access it by going to the **Search** drop down and selecting **Planning** > **Simple Search**.
- 2. Click on the category you want to search by (e.g. Applications, Appeals or Enforcement).
- 3. You can amend the status using the drop down. You can search for current applications, decided applications or all applications.
- 4. Enter the information you would like to search by. If you are searching by an address, do not enter any commas as this may limit your search.
- 5. Click on the **Search** button to see the results.



The descriptions for record are limited to two rows, to view the full description of a record, click **Show More Description**.

need to be removed asap.

Show more description

Advanced Search

You can search for cases using a combination of specific criteria.

- 1. Select **Advanced** using the drop down menu or the **Advanced** tab if you are already on a search page.
- 2. Select if you want to search **Applications**, **Appeals** or **Enforcement** cases.
- 3. If you know the application reference number, you can enter it to search.
- 4. If you know the applicant details (e.g. name or address) you can enter them in the application details section.
- 5. Fill in the information you want to search by. Each case has important dates, so you can use the dates to search within a specific time period.
- 6. Scroll down and press **Search** to bring up results.

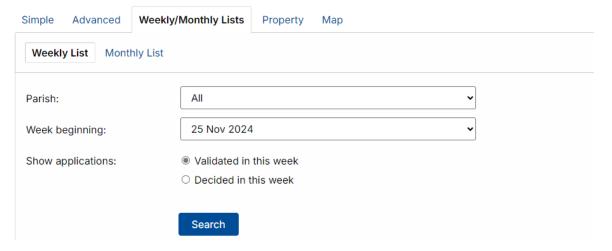
Please note, it is not required to fill in all below fields to search.

Reference Numbers	
Application Reference:	
Planning Portal Reference:	
Alternative Reference:	
Application Details	
Description Keyword:	
Applicant Name:	
Application Type:	All
Parish:	All 🗸
Conservation Area:	
Agent:	
Status:	All 🗸
Decision:	All 🗸
Appeal Status:	All 🗸
Appeal Decision:	All 🗸
Address:	9
Dates	
	ate and an end date) for the criteria that you are interested in. The date fields may be 3). Alternatively, click on the calendar button and pick a date.
Date Received:	■ to: ■

Weekly/Monthly List Search

You can search for applications by the week or month they were validated or decided.

- 1. Select **Weekly/Monthly List** from the drop down or the tab.
- 2. Select Weekly List or Monthly List.
- 3. You can filter by Parish if you wish or search all.
- 4. Choose the date you would like to search by.
- 5. Selected **Validated** or **Decided** in this week to see the relevant applications.
- 6. Press **Search** to show the results.



Property Search

You can search for applications that relate to a specific address.

There are two ways to search, the **Address Search** and the **A to Z Street Search**. The default search is the **Address Search**. The **A to Z Street Search** will show an alphabetical list of all the streets in the Borough.

Address Search

- 1. Choose **Property** in the search drop down or select the **Property** tab.
- 2. Enter all the details you know in the relevant fields.
- 3. If you need to clear the fields, press the **Reset** button.
- 4. Press the **Search** button to display the results.

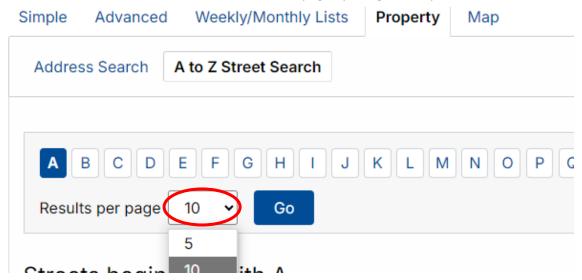
Simple Advanced Weekly/Month	lly Lists Property Map	
Address Search A to Z Street Sea	arch	
Property Name/Number:		
Street Name:		
Locality:		
Town:		
Postcode:		
Sea	arch Reset	

A to Z Street Search

- 1. Choose A to Z Street Search in the Property tab.
- 2. Click the initial letter of the street you are interested in, to display all streets in the Borough.



3. You can amend the number of results shown on a page by using the drop down.



- 4. Select a street from the list. Select the address you would like to view.
- 5. Once you've opened the record, clicking the **Property History** tab will bring up any planning applicants for that address. The Map tab will show the property on a map.

Property History Borough Council of King's Lynn And West Norfolk King's Court Chapel Street Kin Back to search results Address Property History (37) Map Planning Applications (34)

6. To return to the list of streets click **Refine** Search on the right-hand side.



Map Search

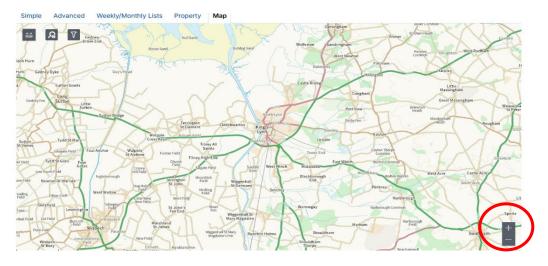
The Map Search is an interactive tool that allows you to zoom in and around the Borough. It shows planning cases (Applications, Appeals or Enforcements) on a map, allowing you to easily see where each case is. You can also search for a specific area.

Please note, this search may not be available on some mobile devices.

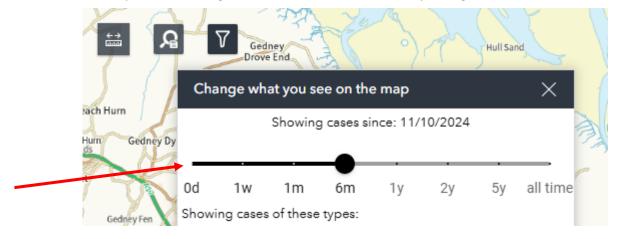
1. Open the Map Search from the planning drop down menu or tab.



- 2. To move round the map, hold your mouse button and drag around the screen.
- 3. You can zoom into a specific location on the map. Drag the map to the centre of the area you want to see. Press the + button on the bottom right-hand side. To zoom out the press button. You can also scroll using your mouse wheel.

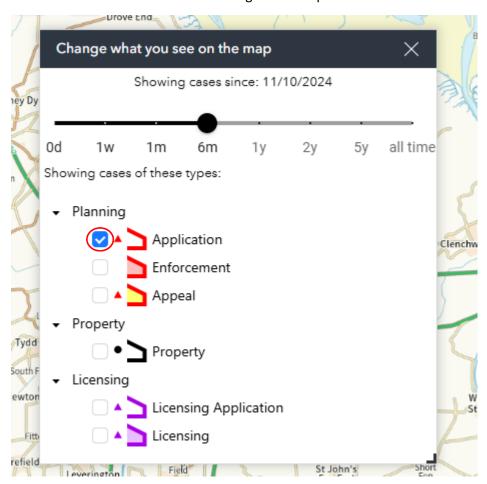


4. You can set certain parameters on your search. Click the **Filter** button to adjust what you see on the map. You can change the timescale of cases shown by sliding the scale.



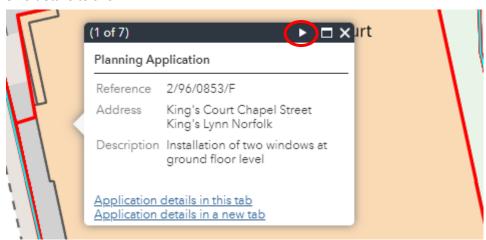
5. The map allows you to adjust the case types you see. Clicking the ▶ icons will open each type, so you can click to add or remove a layer. Click the square next to the type of case you would like to see on the map.

A layer will be shown if it is ticked. On the below example, only planning applications made in the last 6 months are showing on the map.



6. Once you have identified the property you would like to view, click within the line to bring up the details. You can select whether you would like the details to open in your current tab, or a new one in your browser (shown by the arrow). If the property has more than one application, you can press the **Arrow** highlighted with a circle to view them all.

Please note, properties with no line / fill have no applications submitted so therefore will have no details to show.



Map Key

Case Type	Record Type	Description	Key
Planning	Application	Properties where a planning application has been submitted. SHOWN AS A SOLID RED LINE.	Chapel Lane
	Appeal	Properties that have had a planning appeal submitted. SHOWN AS A RED LINE WITH YELLOW FILL.	Chapel lane
	Enforcement	Properties that are the subject of a planning enforcement application. SHOWN AS A RED LINE WITH RED FILL.	Chaptel Lann
Licensing	Licensing Application	Properites that have a licence application submitted. SHOWN AS A PURPLE TRIANGLE.	PH 4
	Licensing	Properties that hold one or more licences. SHOWN AS A PURPLE TRIANGLE.	PH & LE
Property	Properties	All valid, registered properties. You can select the black dot to view the property details. SHOWN AS A BLACK DOT.	

Measuring on the Map

You can measure distance and areas on the map.

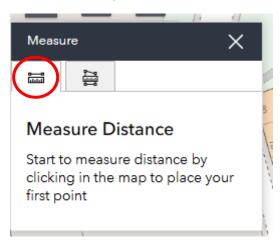
Please note, this tool is for indicative purposes only. It gives an estimate of the distance or areas of an area and should not be taken as fact.

Area

1. Zoom into the area or address you would like to measure. Select the **Ruler** icon to bring up the menu of measurements.



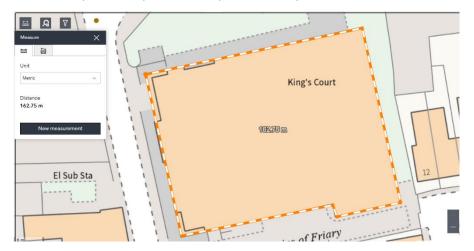
2. To measure the area on the map, select the first icon.



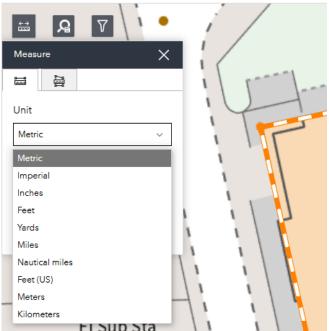
- 3. To begin measuring, click your starting point on the map. For this example, the starting point will be the top left-hand corner of King's Court.
- 4. Once you have selected your starting point, a blue line will follow your mouse, ready for you to select the next point. Click on your second point to create a solid line.



- 5. Follow the shape of the building or area you wish to measure. You can include as many corners as you wish.
- 6. Double click on your start point to complete the shape.

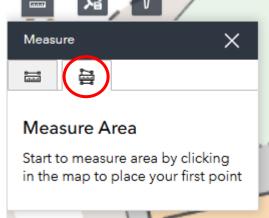


- 7. You can reset the area measurement by pressing the **New Measurement** button. This will enable you to start a new measurement.
- 8. You can adjust the measure unit by using the drop down menu, after you have measured the area.



Distance

1. To measure distance on the map, select the second icon. You can adjust the measuring units if required.



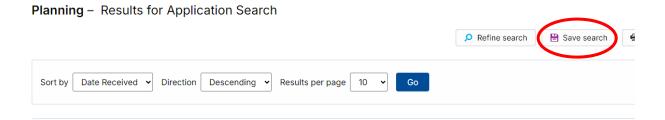
- 2. Click your starting point on the map. The orange line will appear and follow your mouse.
- 3. Double click your end point to complete the line.



SAVING A SEARCH

General Searches

1. Run any of the above searches. Press Save Search on the right-hand side to save to your list.



Map Searches

You can add map searches to your Saved Searches on your account. There are two formats of searches that you can save:

- Rectangular Search saves the area on the map you are currently viewing; with all the record types you have selected (e.g. all planning applications)
- Circular Search saves a selected radius around the centre of the map you are currently viewing, with all the selected record types

Please note, you can only save one record type per search at a time. E.g. one saved search for planning applications in a map area, another saved search for planning appeals in the same area.

Rectangular Searches

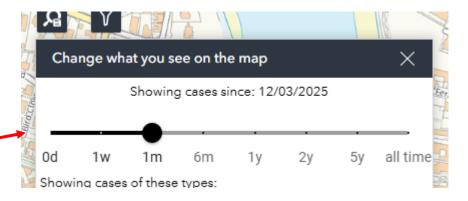
These searches allow you to display all cases of a record type, over the area currently displayed on the map. If you re-run the search, it will update with new cases.

For example, if you have the town centre as your area on the map, selected to show planning applications made within the last month and saved the search. If you re-run the search each month, it will allow you to monitor new applications in the town centre on a monthly basis.

- 1. Zoom into the area you would like to monitor. In this example, it's the town centre.
- 2. Open the Filter menu.



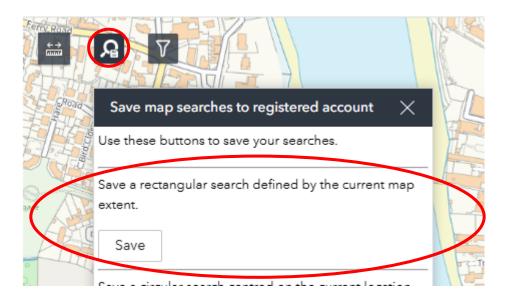
3. Adjust the scale to show the timeframe required. For example, cases in the past month.



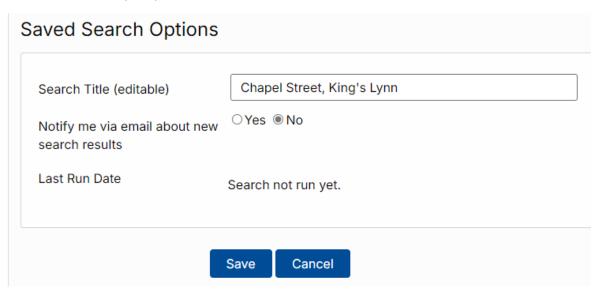
4. Select the case type you would like to monitor. In this case it's Planning Applications.



5. Save the search by clicking the **Save** icon and selecting save as a rectangular search.



6. You can rename the **Search Title** if you wish. You can also opt in to get email updates about any new cases in the area you have searched. Press **Save** to save this search in your Saved Searches list on your profile.

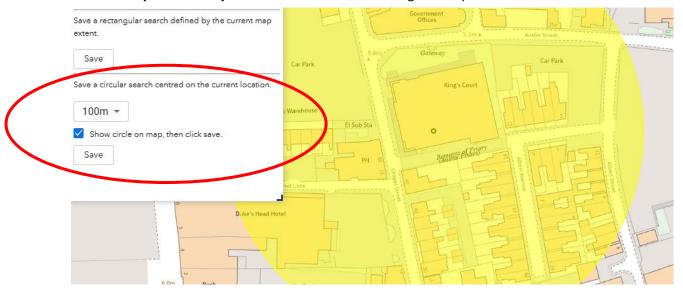


Circular Searches

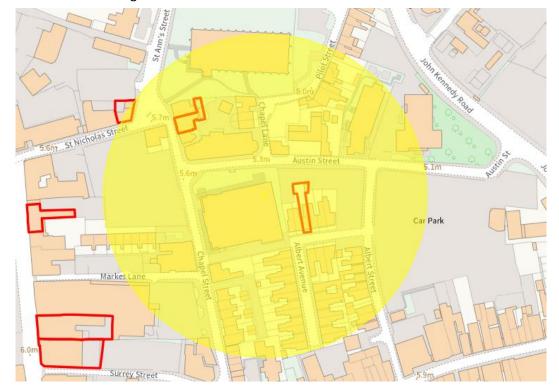
The circular map allows you to search for cases within a specified radius. By re-running a search, you can monitor new cases within the same area.

For example, you can monitor new cases within 100m of where you live, if you have set the area to show your home, with a 100m radius. You can also adjust the time period shown.

1. Zoom in on the area you would like to view. Select the **Search Menu** and select **Show Circle on Map**. You can adjust the radius of the circle using the drop-down menu.

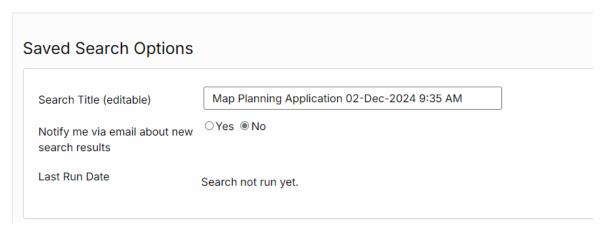


2. Centre your map on the address you would like to monitor. In this case, the circle covers 100m around King's Court. Press the **Save** button on the menu.



3. You can amend the **Search Title** if you wish. You can also opt in to receive updates on any new cases that appear in your saved area.

My Profile - Save Search

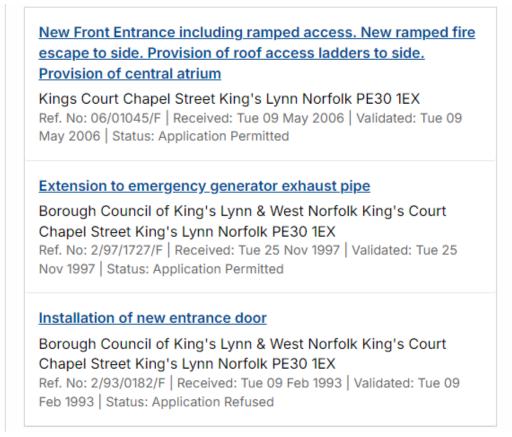


SEARCH RESULTS

Once you have run a search, if there are any cases matching your criteria, a list of results will be produced.

See Page 11 for more guidance on running a search.

1. The results will be listed as below.



- 2. You can adjust how your search results are displayed. Once you have amended the options, press the **Go** button to re-order results.
 - Sort By re-order the results using the drop-down menu
 - Direction choose whether the results are displayed in ascending or descending order
 - Results Per Page increase or decrease number of results shown on a page



3. If you wish to reduce or specify your search, you can use the **Refine Search** button. You can print the list of cases produced using the **Print** button, both found on the top right-hand side.



4. To view an individual case, press the Blue Underlined title.

Record Details

When you open a record or case, the first page is a display of key application details. At the top of the page, there are tabs with further information relevant to the application:

- Details key information about the record
- Comments shows existing comments regarding the case, allows user to make their own
- Documents displays all relevant documents
- Related Cases list of cases that are related to the current record
- Map displays the property on a map



There is a progress bar so you can easily see which stage an application is in. You can click on each stage within the bar to get more detail on each stage.



Details

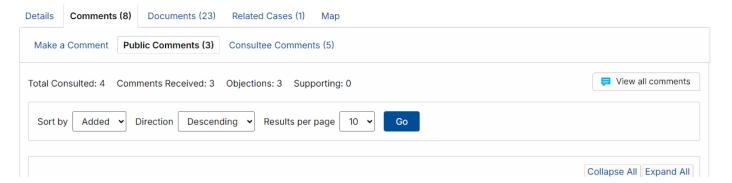
The record details are split into four tabs.

- Summary the basic information related to the case
- Further Information additional information that is not included in the summary
- Contacts list of relevant contacts to the case
- Important Dates Key dates throughout the application process

Comments

This page displays all comments made by the public or consultees. The number of comments is displayed in brackets on the tab. You can also add your own comments in this section.

- 1. To view comments, click on the **Comments** tab.
- 2. To view comments made by the public, select the **Public Comments** tab. To view comments made by Consultees, select the **Consultee Comments** tab.
- 3. You can re-order comments using the **Sort By** drop down list. To change the direction of the list, select **Ascending** or **Descending** from the **Direction** drop down list. Amend the quantity of comments shown on a page using the drop down. After any changes press **Go**.
- 4. You can expand or collapse all the comments to read them all or minimise.
- 5. The **View All Comments** button will bring up all comments related to the case.



Adding a Comment

You don't need an account to make a comment on a planning application, however you do need to provide some details as below.

1. To add your own comment, click on **Make a Comment**.

Details	Comments	(0) Doc	uments (31)	Related Cases (1	l) Map
Make a	Comment	Public Co	mments (0)	Consultee Comm	nents (0)
Are your p	ersonal details co	rrect? Click to <u>u</u>	<u>update my persona</u>	ıl details.	
Your Title:					•
Your First	Name: *				
Your Surna	ame: *				
Address Li	ine 1 *				
Address Li	ine 2				
Town/City	*				
Postcode ³	*				
Your Tel. N	lo.				
Your Email	Address: *				
Commente	er Type: *	Select			•
Stance: *		Object	○Support ○Ne	eutral	
Reason for	r comment:		ntial Amenity or Highways		
Your Comr	ment:				
					//
		Submit	Submit And R	egister Reset	

- 2. If you are logged in, your name and address should already be on the form. Add any details that are missing. If your details are incorrect, click the **Update My Personal Details** link at the top of the page.
- 3. Fill in the remaining required contact details.
- 4. Select the **Commenter Type** from the drop down menu that applies to you.
- 5. Select the **Stance** that applies to your comment, whether you object or support the application, or wish to remain neutral.
- 6. Select the **Reason for Comment**. You can select one or more if they apply to your comment.
- 7. Enter your comment in the Your **Comment** box and press **Submit**. You can also register for an account by pressing **Submit and Register**.

Public Access automatically times out after 30 minutes. If you wish to submit a longer comment, it is advised to write the comment out in another format first and then copy and paste into the **Your Comment** box.

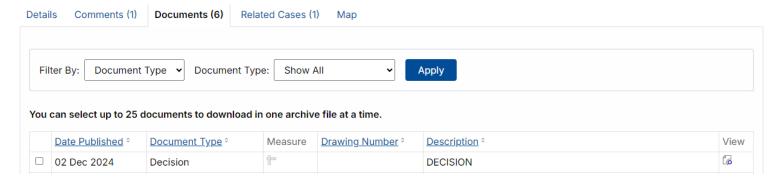
Drafts comments are retained for up to two days for registered users.

Documents

This tab displays any documents that are related to this case. You can filter by document type or description, using the drop down menus.

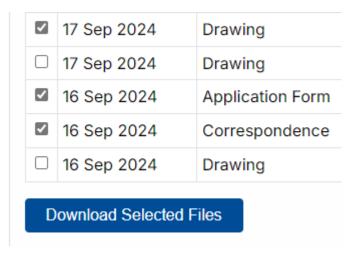
You can re-order the documents shown by date published, document type, drawing number or description, just click on the column header.

To view any of the documents, select the **View** button on the far right.



You can download up to 25 documents at a time.

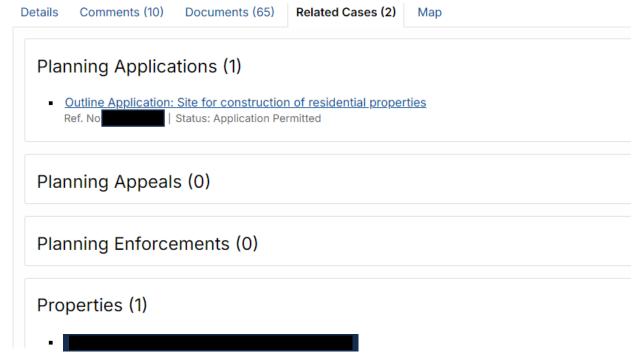
- 1. Select the documents you wish to download by clicking the small square button on the left.
- 2. Once you have selected all the required documents, click **Download Selected Files** at the bottom of the screen.



Related Cases

This tab shows all cases that are related to the one you are currently viewing. These cover all types of cases such as Appeals, Enforcement etc. You can also view the property that the case relates to on this tab.

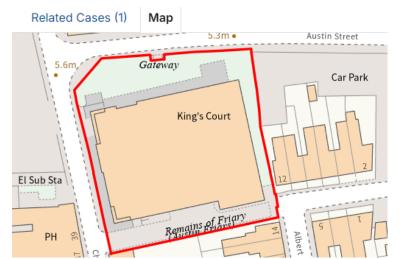
1. Click on **Related Cases** to view a summary of the additional information. To view any of the items, click on its blue, underlined title.



2. Clicking on a property will give you details in a Property Address page.



3. The Map tab on an application page will show you the property on the interactive map.



CONTACT US

If you require further information about any of the details you have viewed using this system, please contact the Planning Department at:

Web: Contact us | Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk

Email: Borough.Planning@West-Norfolk.gov.uk

Phone: 01553 616200

In Person: King's Court, Chapel Street, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE30 1EX

Please note we no longer operate a drop in counter service so pre-booked appointments are necessary. Please call the above number to make an appointment.

Opening Hours:

Monday – Thursday	9.00 AM to 5.00 PM
Friday	9.00 AM to 4.45 PM
Weekends & Bank Holidays	Closed