



The Planning Inspectorate

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Your Ref: HPT/23/018

Our Ref: APP/TPO/H1033/9748

Date: 06 October 2025

Dear Sir / Madam,

**THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (TREE PRESERVATION) (ENGLAND)
REGULATIONS 2012, SI No. 605**

APPLICATION TO CARRY OUT WORK ON PROTECTED TREES

Appeal by: Nigel Webb

**Site Address: Bowden Hall, Bowden Lane, Bowden, Chapel-en-le-Frith, SK23
0QP**

In response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and guidance from government, the Planning Inspectorate has published guidance on site visits, hearings, inquiries and events.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-planning-inspectorate-guidance>

From 13th September we will be reverting to the pre-pandemic approach of hearings and inquiries being face to face events held at venues arranged by Local Planning Authorities (LPAs).

However, when hosting a face to face event, the LPA should also ensure there are appropriate arrangements in place to allow anyone who needs to give evidence virtually to be able to do so.

Virtual participation could, for example, take the form of an individual presenting their case from home or from an alternative safe environment to the event room with the rest of the event continuing face-to-face. Alternatively, it could take the form of a separate virtual event to follow a face-to-face event.

Whilst live streaming the event isn't essential, it would be beneficial if the Council is able to facilitate this.

In case pandemic restrictions change the LPA should also provide for the backup of an entirely virtual event.

If the LPA are not able to meet the requirements to host a face to face event they should make arrangements for an entirely virtual event.

Please can your LPA confirm, within the next 5 working days, you are able to make suitable arrangements for the inquiry/hearing sitting on **04 November 2025 at 10:00** and provide confirmation of the venue or if you also wish to discuss the

requirements that will be needed to support an online virtual element or an entirely virtual event.

Please submit your responses to treeandhedgeappeals@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Further information is available at the links below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/setting-up-a-venue-for-a-public-inquiry-hearing-or-examination/public-inquiries-hearings-and-examinations-venue-and-facilities-requirements>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-local-planning-authorities-hosting-virtual-events-for-the-planning-inspectorate>

I trust that this is self-explanatory. Please contact me if you have any queries.

The hearing/inquiry is currently anticipated as sitting for **1** day(s), but the duration is not fixed and may change depending on what the Inspector decides needs his/her consideration.

Notification

PINS requests that you carry out a notification to relevant parties no later than two weeks before the opening of the Hearing. PINS advises that if you wish to invite third parties to participate in the Hearing that notification of Hearing arrangements should be sent to all those entitled to appear at the Hearing including those who made representations at the application and/or appeal stages and anyone else you consider to be affected by or interested in the works to the preserved tree.

Your letter should include:

- a brief description of the subject matter of the appeal(s);
- the location of the site(s);
- that the hearing will be held as a virtual event, run by the Inspector in the normal way, with the parties invited to join via Microsoft Teams or telephone;
- a clear statement of the date and time of the Hearing opening, the powers enabling the Inspector to determine the appeal and the name of the Inspector;
- a link (via the Council's website) to the appeal documents;

You must send a copy of the notification letter to me, together with a list of all those notified, at the same time that it is sent out to the parties.

If you consider it appropriate, please notify the press of the hearing and, if notice of the hearing is published in the press, send a copy of the notice(s) to the case officer.

Yours sincerely,

Tree and Hedge Appeals