



Public Sector Legal News Update

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Cases

HOUSING

Hackney LBC v Haque. [2017] EWCA Civ 4. Court of Appeal (Civil Division) (CA (Civ Div)). McCombe LJ; Beatson LJ; Briggs LJ. January 17, 2017

The Court of Appeal considered the impact of the public sector equality duty on a local authority's assessment of whether the accommodation which it had provided to a disabled homeless man was suitable. The decision-maker in such cases was not required to spell out whether the applicant had a protected characteristic and the effect of the public sector equality duty.

Appeal allowed

Legislation

PLANNING

Protection of Family Homes (Enforcement and Permitted Development) Bill 2016 (HC Bill 39).

A Bill to make provision about guidance to local authorities on when to take enforcement action for breaches of planning law; to clarify guidance on the scope of permitted development rights; to make provision about rights and entitlements, including of appeal, for people whose homes are affected by such breaches; to make provision for the inspection and regulation of building under the permitted development regime; to establish financial penalties for developers who breach planning law in certain circumstances; and for connected purposes.

[Read full text here](#)

Hansard: HC Vol 612 col 636 (1st Reading)
Commons 1st Reading: 4/7/2016; 2nd Reading: 13/1/2017

Regulatory Development

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

Consultation on the compliance and review methodology: consultation response - January 2017.
Issued by Single Source Regulations Office. 24 January 2017

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A response by the Single Source Regulations Office (SSRO) to its consultation on its compliance and review methodology outlines the key issues raised by respondents to the consultation as well as the SSRO's response to the feedback it received. The SSRO goes on to describe its next steps, which include the amending of the reporting cycle to align with the financial year meaning the SSRO's next compliance report will be published in June 2017.

[Read full text here](#)

News

EMPLOYMENT

Scotland trials scheme to give out universal basic salary. *Daily Telegraph*, 3 January 2017, 10. Also Reported in *Guardian*, 1 January 2017 (Online edition)

Scotland looks set to be the first part of the UK to trial a universal income scheme, handing everyone a basic salary regardless of their other earnings, as councils in Fife and Glasgow investigate pilot schemes in 2017 to replace the current welfare system, which tops up pay. The hope is that the system will encourage unemployed individuals to work part time to top up the basic income guarantee.

Further Reading

CONSTRUCTION LAW

Comprehending corporate real estate. *E.G.* 2017, 1702, 60-61. By Kate Taylor.

This, the twentieth in a series of articles for students on the RICS Assessment of Professional Competencies, explores the corporate real estate optional competency. Describes the skills which candidates need to demonstrate at levels 1, 2 and 3. Includes a list of useful resources for candidates and example questions.