

Policy Framework, where it is a material consideration, clear and convincing reasons for doing so are needed.

Paragraph: 006 Reference ID: 21b-006-20190315

Revision date: 15 03 2019 See [previous version](#)

<https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/ukgwa/20181208091555/https://www.gov.uk/guidance/determining-a-planning-application#how-decisions-on-applications>

Paragraph: 007 - REMOVED - See [previous version](#)

<https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/ukgwa/20181208091555/https://www.gov.uk/guidance/determining-a-planning-application#how-decisions-on-applications>

What is a material planning consideration?

A material planning consideration is one which is relevant to making the planning decision in question (eg whether to grant or refuse an application for planning permission).

The scope of what can constitute a material consideration is very wide and so the courts often do not indicate what cannot be a material consideration. However, in general they have taken the view that planning is concerned with land use in the public interest, so that the protection of purely private interests such as the impact of a development on the value of a neighbouring property or loss of private rights to light could not be material considerations.

Paragraph: 008 Reference ID: 21b-008-20140306

Revision date: 06 03 2014

What weight can be given to a material consideration?

The law makes a clear distinction between the question of whether something is a material consideration and the weight which it is to be given. Whether a particular consideration is material will depend on the circumstances of the case and is ultimately a decision for the courts. Provided regard is had to all material considerations, it is for the decision maker to decide what weight is to be given to the material considerations in each case, and (subject to the test of reasonableness) the courts will not get involved in the question of weight.

Paragraph: 009 Reference ID: 21b-009-20140306

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Can local planning authorities take the planning history of a site into account when determining an application for planning permission?

The planning history of a site may be a relevant consideration in the determination

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