

26 November 2025

Annwyl/Dear

Thank you for your request which I received on 31 October 2025. You asked for the following:

*The latest copy of any planning inspector training manual and also any instructions used by PEDW on determining planning application appeals where the development is outside the settlement boundary or whether the development is within a strategic landscape area or similar as defined in the council's local development plan.*

### **Our response**

I enclose copies of all the Inspector Training Manual (ITM) chapters produced by Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW) that are currently (as at the date of your request) in use by our Inspectors. The ITM is intended for internal usage within PEDW and is designed to assist Inspectors in their particular role in the planning system.

This training material does not constitute Government policy or guidance; nor does it seek to interpret Government policy. In addressing policy issues, Inspectors are expected to have regard to the most up-to-date policy and guidance produced by the relevant Government department.

If there appears to be a discrepancy between this material and national policy / guidance, any national policy and guidance will be conclusive. The ITM is a guidance document only and does not replace any legislation associated with Planning and the decision-making process.

The ITM is made up of 'living documents' and is subject to regular updates. As these documents are not written for an external audience, they may contain hyperlinks that point to our internal systems and the subject of the links will therefore will not be accessible to those outside the Welsh Government

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit  
Welsh Government  
Cathays Park  
Cardiff  
CF10 3NQ

or e-mail: [Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales](mailto:Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales)

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information

Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Website: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely