

**From:** [Legg, John](#)  
**To:** [Ebony Brown](#)  
**Cc:** [Leenamari Aantaa-Collier](#); [Alexandra Hastings-Smith](#); [Ventham, Kathryn](#); [Lambeth, Scarlett](#); [Paul Lester - Principal Planning Officer](#); [Skinner, Helen](#);  
**Subject:** RE: (WOR192/8) Appeal APP/Q1825/W/24/3350905 | Request for Rule 6 Status  
**Sent:** 26/11/2024 10:05:29

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Good morning Ebony,

The Inspector notes the Worcestershire Acute NHS Trust (the Trust) is requesting Rule 6 status, as of 25 November 2024. The Council's notification letter dated 3 October 2024 includes a hyperlink to guidance on Rule 6 status and it goes onto clearly states that "If, having read the above guidance, you wish to apply for Rule 6 status it is essential that you contact the Planning Inspectorate immediately." The Inspector is therefore unclear why the Trust is now applying for Rule 6 status at this late stage, which is nearly 8 weeks after the notification letter.

Furthermore, a party which has been granted Rule 6 status would be expected to attend the Case Management Conference (CMC). This has however already taken place on 5 November 2024 in accordance with the Inquiry timetable to identify the main issues, how they are to be dealt with, the running order and the timetable for the submission of the main parties' documents. The Inquiry timetable also requires that Statements of Case are to be submitted prior to the CMC, as they inform discussions at this meeting. The Inspector therefore does not consider there would be sufficient time for the main parties to consider a Statement of Case to be prepared by the Trust in order to inform what expert evidence those parties may subsequently wish to produce through Proofs of Evidence, and which are to be submitted by the main parties by 7 January 2025 at the latest.

The Inspector does not therefore accept the request for Rule 6 status. The Trust will however have the opportunity to address the Inquiry, as an Interested Person, if it so wishes. There will also be a Round Table Session to discuss planning obligations. If it wishes to produce a written statement to set out what it will say at the Inquiry, this must be submitted no later than 7 January 2025. Please also note that an Inspector has the power to initiate an award of costs. This can include not keeping to the Inquiry timetable.

Kind regards

John



**John Legg** He/Him  
Executive Officer  
The Planning Inspectorate  
T 0303 444 5244

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**From:** Ebony Brown <ebrown@wilkes.co.uk>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 25, 2024 4:45 PM  
**To:** Legg, John <John.Legg@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>; West-1 <west1@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Leenamari Aantaa-Collier <laantaa-collier@wilkes.co.uk>; Alexandra Hastings-Smith <ahastings-smith@wilkes.co.uk>  
**Subject:** (WOR192/8) Appeal APP/Q1825/W/24/3350905 | Request for Rule 6 Status  
**Importance:** High

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Dear John,

Please find the attached letter sent on behalf of Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust.

We would be grateful if you would confirm receipt of the enclosed.

Kind regards,  
**Ebony Brown**  
Legal Assistant  
Wilkes

t: 0121 710 5853  
e: [ebrown@wilkes.co.uk](mailto:ebrown@wilkes.co.uk)  
w: [www.wilkes.co.uk](http://www.wilkes.co.uk)



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