



Regulatory Policy Institute

Annual Competition and Regulation Conference 2013

10 September 2013

**Sir Michael Pitt
Chief Executive
The Planning Inspectorate**



Streamlining NI Planning

- **5 years of legislation**

“There are glimpses of heaven in every Act”.....Arthur P Stanley

- **Learning and adapting**

- **What next?**





The Business View

- **'Business has come to the view that the UK's planning system is a blocker' (CBI)**
- **'The planning system is too complex, too costly and lacks consistency' (BCC)**





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Infrastructure

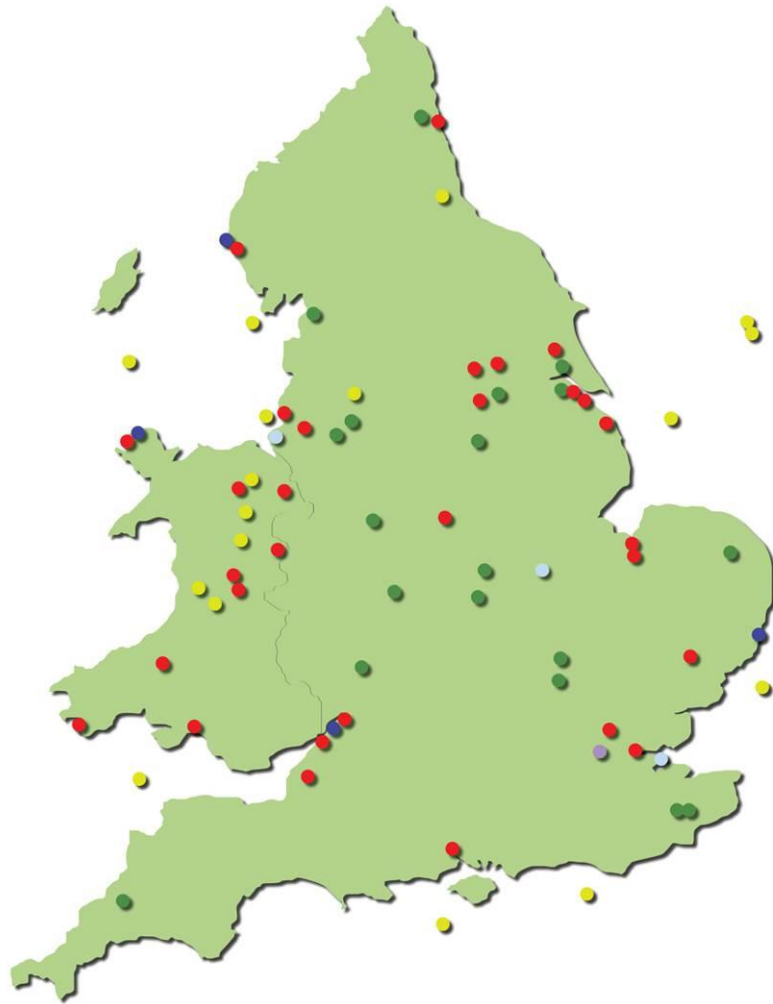
"An all-out mission to kick-start infrastructure projects and revive the economy"

(October 2011)





Overview of Projects: July 2013



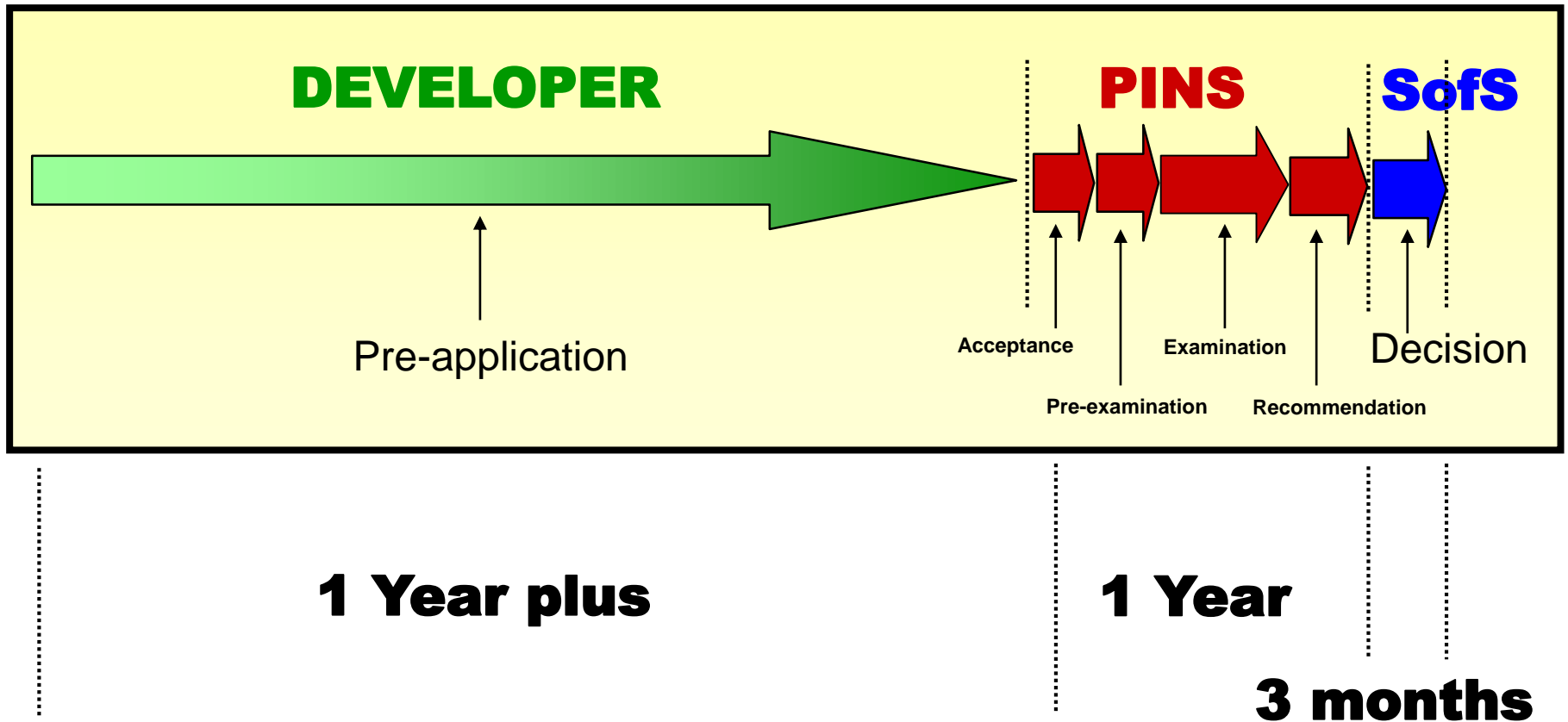
Key:

- Wind farms (22)
- Other Energy (30)
- Transport (18)
- Hazardous Waste (3)
- Waste Water (1)
- Nuclear (4)

Total: 78 and growing

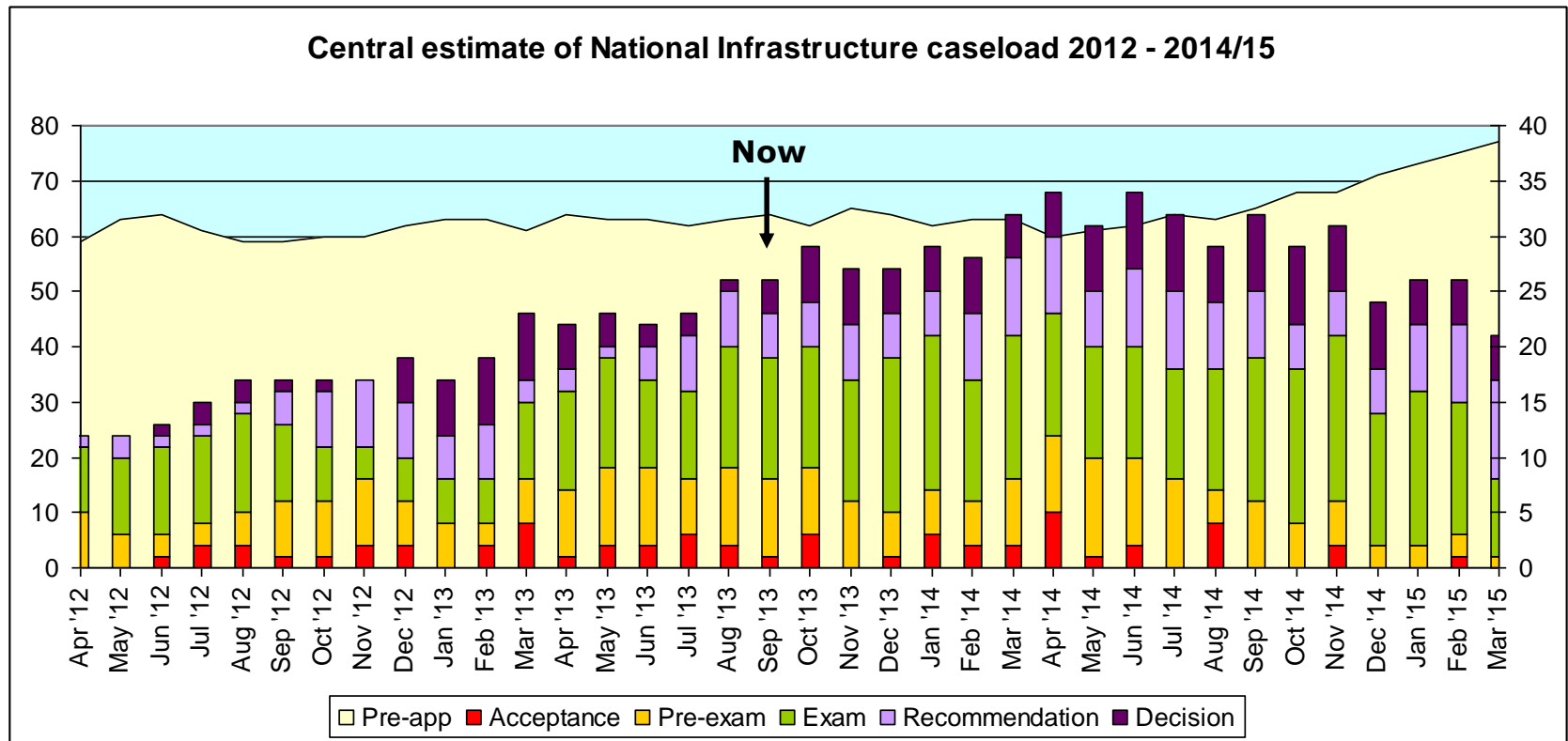


National Infrastructure





National Infrastructure Caseload





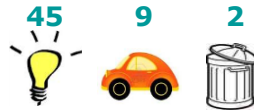
Why have 20 NI proposals not progressed?

Stage	No. of Projects	Reasons
Pre-application	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business reasons• Threshold changes
Acceptance	1	Different approach identified
Pre-examination	2	Business reasons
Examination	1	Redesign & changed economics



Progress Overview

Pre-Application



56

Acceptance



2

Pre-Examination



12

Examination



5

Recommendation



1

SoS Decision



3

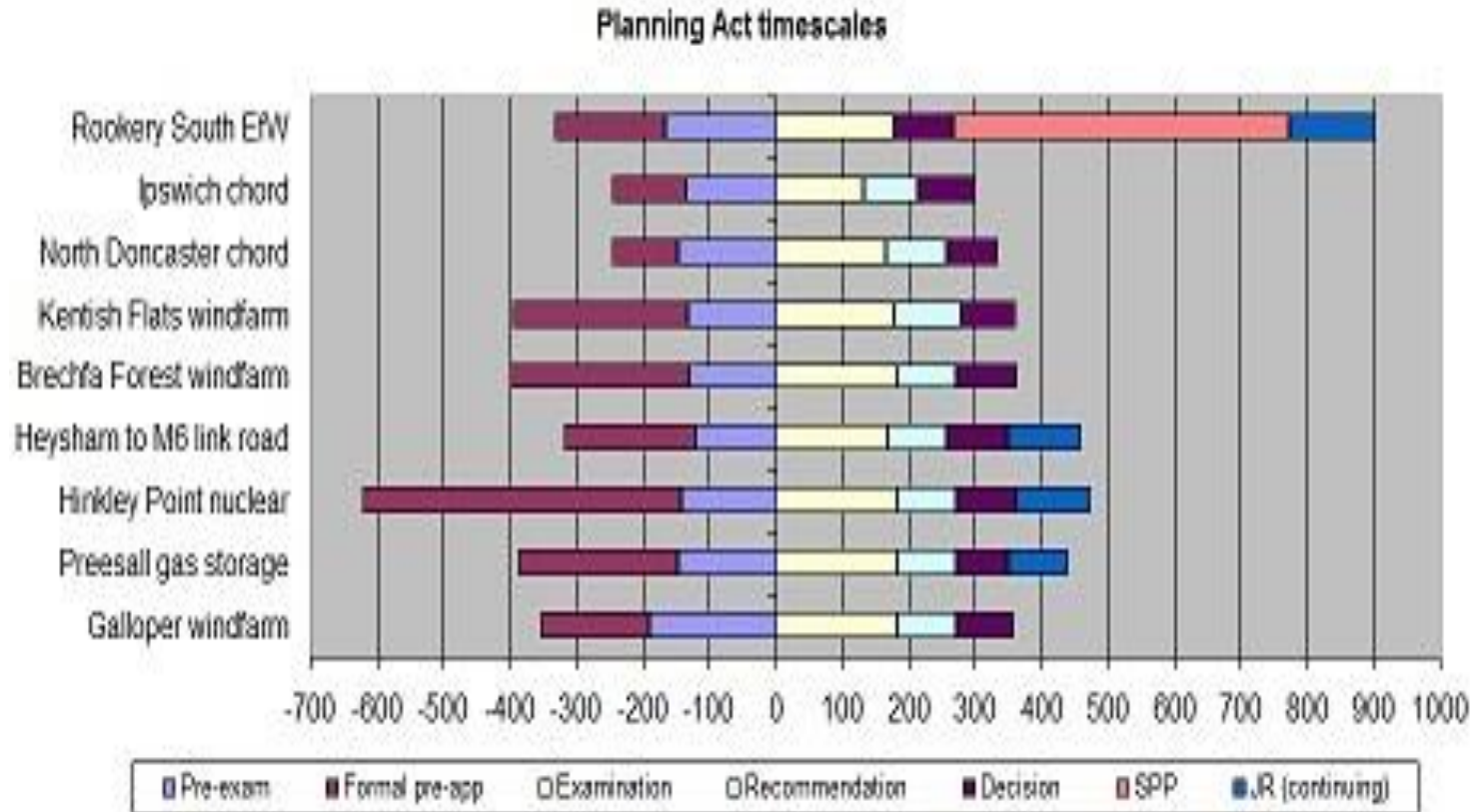
Post-Decision



12
(4 JR)



DCO Timescales





Avoiding the pitfalls (1)

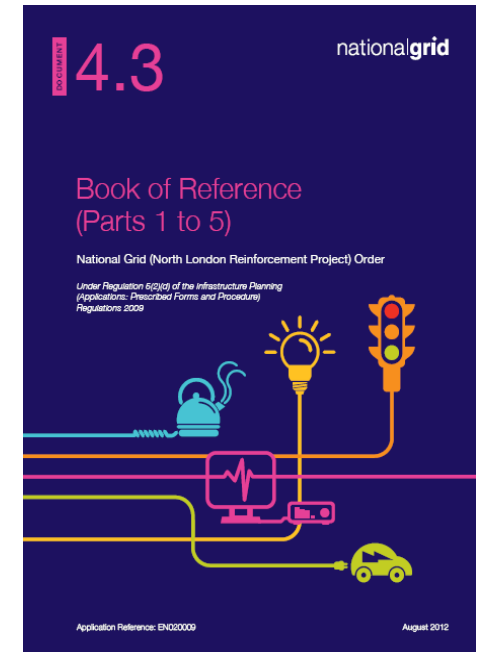
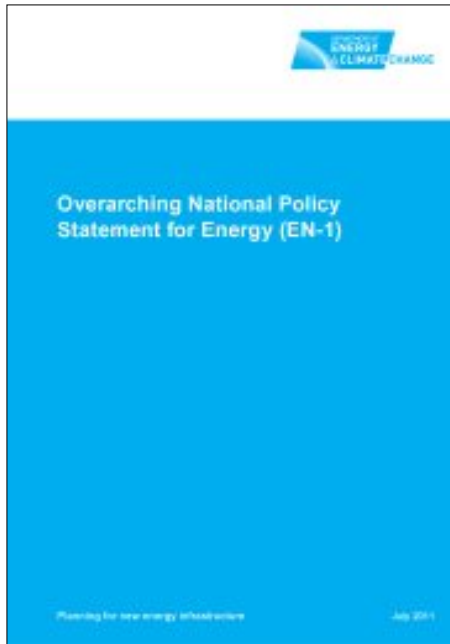
- **Project Management**
- **Legal/technical advice**
- **Consult all prescribed consultees**
- **Evidence agreement with statutory bodies, e.g. Habitat regulations**
- **Ensure project in DCO is consistent with ES**
- **Genuine public engagement**





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Avoiding the pitfalls (2)





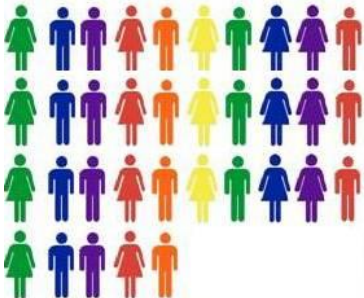
PINS: Major Applications and Plans Directorate



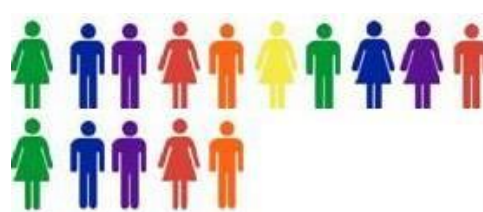
Mark Southgate
(Director)



Simone Wilding (35)
(Case Management)



Tom Warth (15)
(Operations)



Adrian Harding (3)
(Consents Service Unit)





Planning Reform

Up and running

Prioritising Major Applications

Consent Services Unit

Section 106

Local Lists

To follow

Award of Costs

Appeals Review

Poor Performing LPAs (Major Applications)

Business and Commercial NI Thresholds

Roll out

Oct 2012

April 2013

April 2013

June 2013

Oct 2013

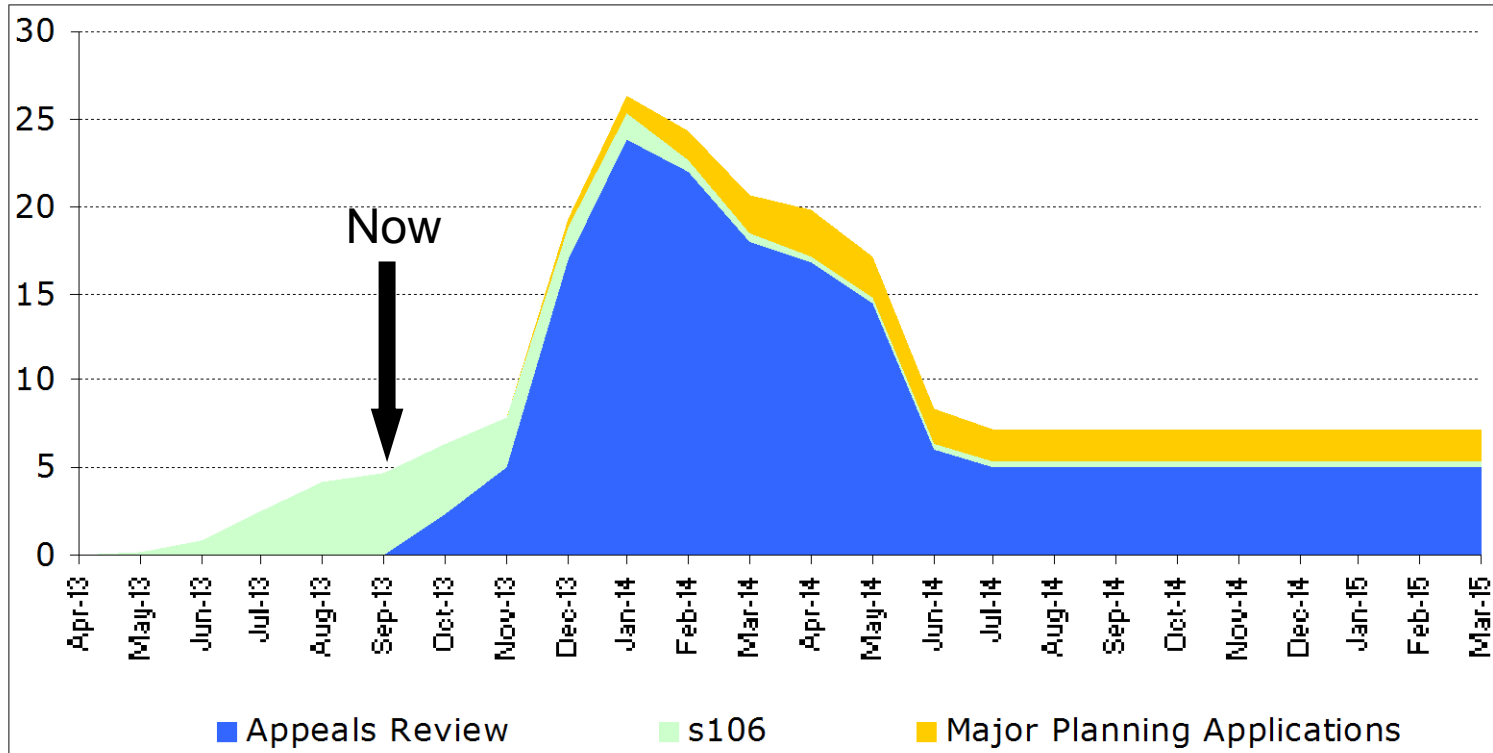
Oct 2013

Oct 2013

April 2014



Planning Reform – overall impact (FTE)





The Planning
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Thames Tideway Tunnel

- **Submitted 28 February**
- **50,000 Pages**
- **Over 1000 Plans**
- **18,000 land interests**
- **EIA / HRA**
- **Accepted 27 March**

