

MONTH: May 2006 (2 weeks annual leave taken in May).

DATE	Nature of professional work/task undertaken	What skills/competencies has this work developed?	What knowledge/understanding has been gained/developed as a result of this work?	What skills/knowledge do you feel you need to develop?	Employer verification
May '06	<p>Case officer for application for change of use of A1 use shop to mortgage advisors within the protected retail frontage area of the Town centre. This application was contentious as there had apparently been pre-app discussions from the LPA advising that the application was acceptable, however the percentage of frontage allowed to be non-A1 was already over the threshold allowed at 25% so I recommended the application be refused. It was called in to committee and was refused as per officer recommendation. Assessor Comment 1</p>	<p>This application furthered my report writing skills and my skills at both diplomatic discussion and also diplomatic writing in the presentation of the case. It also improved my skills at identifying areas for engaging with other departments and multidisciplinary working. In this case I spoke with economic regeneration to establish whether the property had been empty for long enough to consider re-visiting the wording of the policy or whether an A1 use could be easily found and we should continue with such rigid protection of the shops in this particular location.</p>	<p>I gained a deeper understanding of the town centre retail policies, including government guidance, and a much better understanding of the overarching rationale behind these.</p> <p>I was also reminded once again of the importance of pre-application advice; this was an instance where the LPA had possibly given misleading and inconsistent advice, leading to awkward path for the application and a difficult situation for me as the final case officer.</p>	<p>I would like to further develop my skills at identifying situation in which other departments within the council or other external bodies can add information to consider in making a recommendation, for example the economic and regeneration dept. here. I would like to be able to further draw on these outside skills and pools of information.</p> <p>I feel I handled the possible mis-information situation here well through negotiation, discussion etc, however the management of mis-information is a skill I would like to further.</p>	<p><i>Employer</i></p>

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May '06	<p>Case officer for a Listed Building Consent application for external pipes/flue associated with the insertion of a new fuel-condensing boiler into a flat within a grade 2 listed building in the centre of the town.</p>	<p>I had to negotiate with the owners of the building and mediate between them and the consultant architect (employed by The Council on LBC applications) in order to gain a suitable scheme. It also developed my skills at forward planning in the sense that I foresaw the issues that the other 4 flats in the building would also have to change to this type of boiler at some point and that whilst one set of pipes was acceptable, this future proliferation may not be, thus an external piping system was decided upon which could be linked to other boilers at a later date – minimising the number of pipes needed.</p> <p>Assessor Comment 2</p>	<p>This furthered my knowledge of LBC applications and the importance of the visual appearance of listed buildings, particularly those in dominant location such as this one.</p> <p>This application also raised my awareness of the new part L of the Building Regulations and the concessions that can be made for listed buildings.</p>	<p>I would like to further my knowledge of building regulations in order to be more aware of where they impact upon both planning and LBC applications, but also so as to provide more informed information to the public/developers when discussing a potential application/scheme.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>EMP/1085</i></p>

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25/5/06	Attendance of the Borough Council Developers Forum	It heightened my capacity to listen to and communicate information and to turn information gained into positive suggestions to improve the processes we operate for both stakeholders and The Council. This forum allowed for multi-disciplinary working, relationship building and problem/solution identification.	Greater understanding of the planning portal, e-planning and the potential it has. Discussions also included the EA's new Rapid Inundation Zone (RIZ) mapping and policies and thus my knowledge both of the implication of this for us as planners and the implications for developers increased greatly.	I would like to further my knowledge of the Environment Agency's policies and rationale's in order to be better informed and aware of the implications. I would also like to make use of other offered opportunities, and make opportunities to build relationships with the stakeholders, particularly developers to be able to have a more holistic view of the implications of my actions and recommendations within the planning process.	<i>Employer</i>
May '06	Case officer for number of appeal questionnaires and statements.	These furthered my written skills and my knowledge of planning terms, it also improved my time management skills	Better understanding of the Regional and structure plan policies and their role in Local Government planning	My case law knowledge for reference in appeals. I can do this through Planning magazine, DCP and colleagues.	<i>Employer</i>

### **Assessor Comments**

**Overall Comment:** this log book is a good example of the candidate focusing on a selection of interesting applications that have challenged him/her in skill and knowledge development, or have provided contentious issues to be resolved. It also demonstrates a good understanding of the issues surrounding each application. Stylistically, this is an example of a log book which uses a fairly conversational style, which seems to lend itself well to the Licentiate's reflective practice.

**Comment 1:** good example of how a contentious issue was handled by the Licentiate, and this will help him/her to think about drawing out examples of where he/she has operated within a framework of professional ethics in the final written submission.

**Comment 2:** this is a good example of focus on a particular skill – negotiation skills and forward planning – drawing out why these skills were required and how they were applied in a particular context. In this way the candidate draws on the guidance provided, without simply providing a list of skills employed and developed.