

# Surveying Alert



## Survey requirements for plans for freeholding actions

21 Nov 2014  
Issue 13

The government has streamlined the process for conversion of a number of categories of perpetual leases to freehold. Lessees holding these leases have been provided with a letter of offer to convert to freehold.

Where a preliminary assessment by the department indicated that the current plan may not be suitable for the freeholding action, the letter of offer specified that a new plan would be required.

Subsequent to that, the standards in the Cadastral Survey Requirements have been assessed to determine whether some relaxation could apply for these freeholding actions.

A recommended practice has been prepared, outlining a general approach to applying the standards. The flexibility will operate by surveyors obtaining exemptions from particular standards. While each case will need to be considered on its merits, as a general rule proposals to follow the recommended practice will be granted exemptions.

If surveyors are approached by a lessee in relation to a plan for a conversion action, the following process is recommended:

1. Approach your local principal surveyor, and discuss with them whether a plan is actually required, in light of the recommended practice. It is likely that some will not be required.
2. If a plan is required, obtain a copy of the recommended practice and assess how it might be applied to the particular survey.
3. If relevant, make application for exemptions where the recommended practice indicates that an exemption will be needed.
4. Discuss with your local principal surveyor whether there is any information on departmental files or other records that will be needed to define any particular boundaries.

Please note the following:

1. This is a different process and recommended practice to the one distributed for conversion of term leases to rolling term leases.
2. Information kits are not being provided for these surveys.