

# Summary of consultation questions

Question 1: We would welcome views on the overall approach set out in this consultation paper.

**The process set out in the consultation paper lends itself to a more streamlined approach and, in turn, for appeals to be dealt with in a more timely and efficient way.**

Question 2: What are your views on when 'relevant authorities' should be involved in the process?

**For relevant authorities it's more about having the ability to inform the Valuation Office Agency of circumstances that they become aware of that might impact on the rateable value attributed to the hereditament.**

Question 3: We will consult further on the detail of these penalties, but in the meantime, would welcome general views on implementation and the likely disincentive effect of this measure.

**We agree with the proposal to introduce penalties. The disincentive effect of this measure is difficult to gauge, but would suggest at a maximum level of £500 it might not be that much of a disincentive.**

Question 4: We will bring forward end-of-list proposals in due course, but in the meantime would welcome general views.

**No comments at this stage.**

Question 5: What arrangements should apply to temporary material change of circumstances cases under the new system?

**To aid financial planning both a start and provisional end date should be attached to the temporary material change.**

Question 6: What are your views on the trigger point for check stage?

**12 months seems appropriate whilst the new system beds-in, but with an expectation that this is reduced to 6 months or less.**

Question 7: What are your views on the time limit for submission of a complete challenge, following check stage?

**Agree.**

Question 8: What are your views on the trigger point for challenge stage?

**18 months seems appropriate whilst the new system beds-in, but with an expectation that this is reduced to 12 months or less.**

Question 9: Do you agree that these requirements for a challenge are the best way to ensure early engagement on the key issues?

**Agree.**

Question 10: Do you agree that this process allows the ratepayers to make their case in a fair and effective way?

**Agree.**

Question 11: What are your views on whether straightforward appeals could be determined on the papers, without the need for a hearing?

**There might be cases where the decision could be determined from the papers, but would ask where it is straightforward why would such cases reach this stage.**

Question 12: What are your views on the time limit for submission of an appeal, following challenge stage?

**Agree.**

Question 13: How should we best ensure that the appeal stage focuses on outstanding issues and, as far as possible, is based on evidence previously considered at challenge stage?

**Do not allow further evidence to be presented other than by exception as set out in the consultation paper.**

Question 14: We will consult further on the details of these fees, but in the meantime, would welcome general views on implementation.

**We agree with the proposal to introduce fees. Fees linked to rateable value will better reflect ability to pay than a flat rate in the region of £100 - £300.**

Question 15: We would welcome general views on whether changes to appeals to the Upper Tribunal (Lands Chamber) would be beneficial.

**Agree that changes to appeals to the Upper Tribunal as set out in the consultation paper would be beneficial.**