



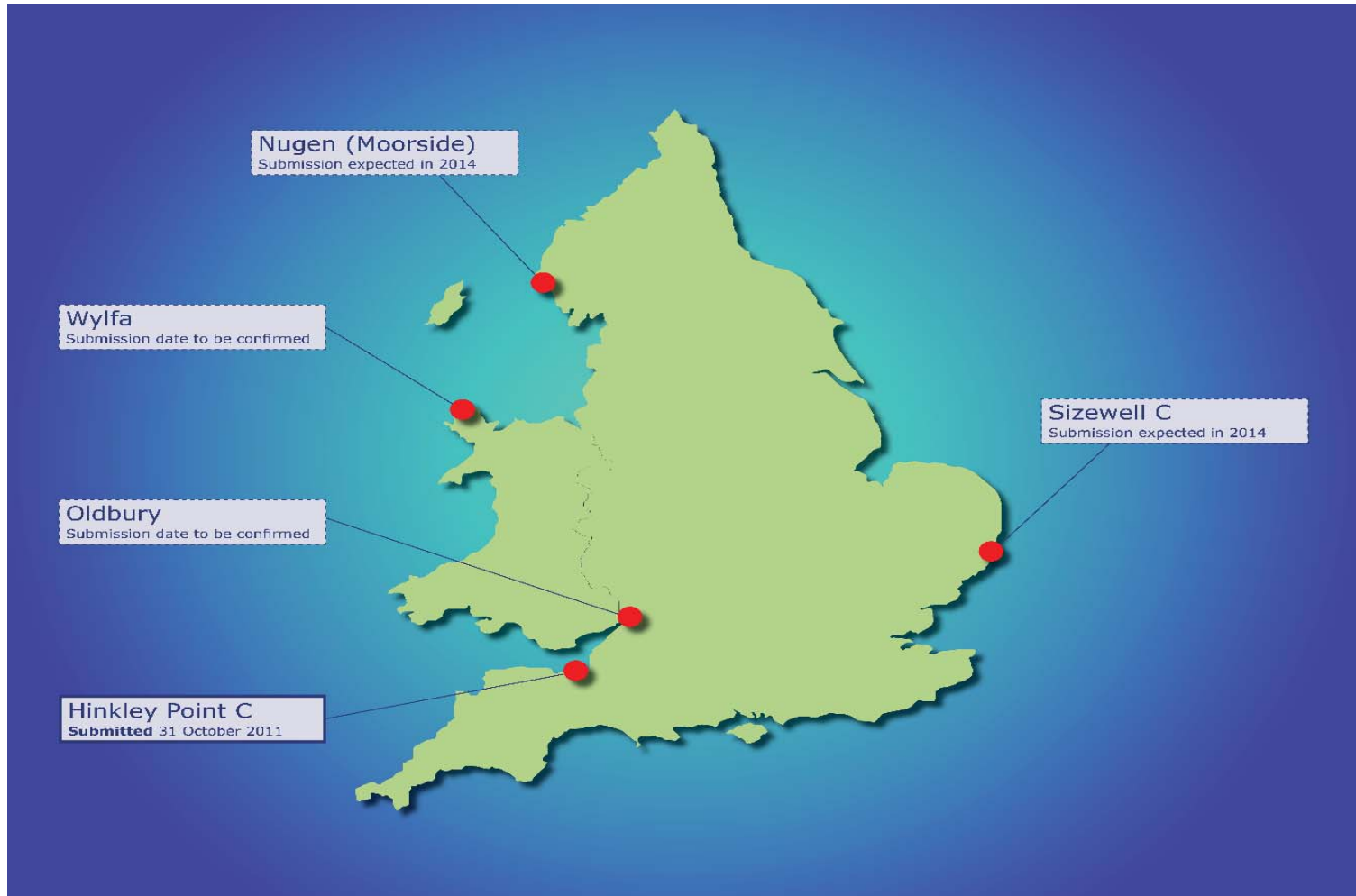
The Planning  
Inspectorate

# The Development Consent Process

Information about the application process

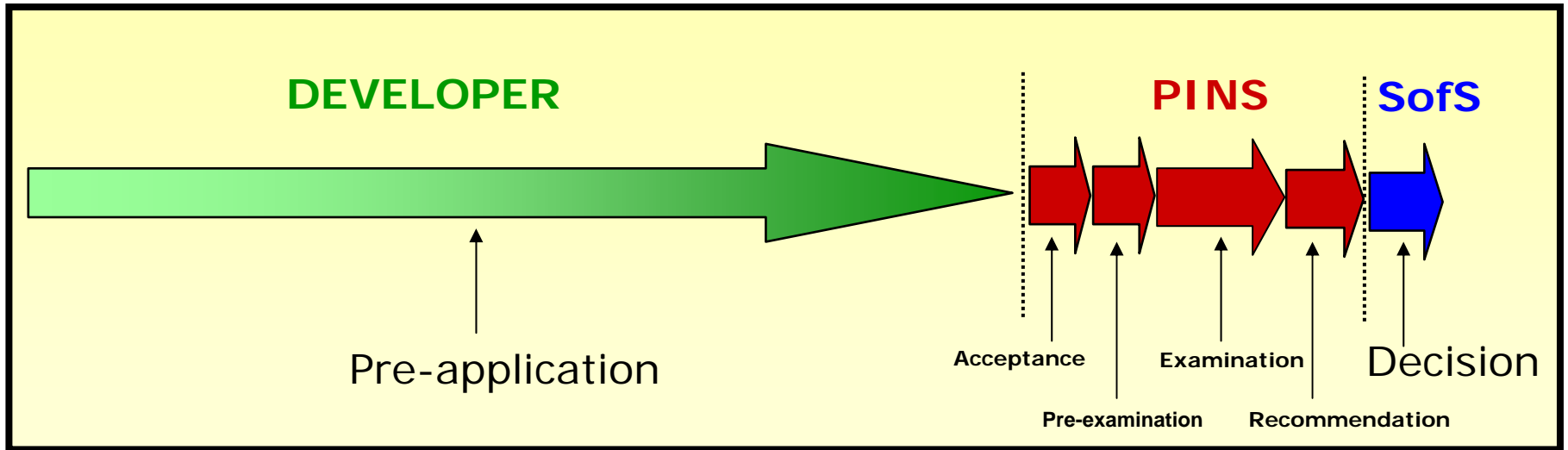


# Current Caseload of Nuclear Projects





# The Development Consent Process



**1 Year +**

**1 Year**



# Four Key Messages

- 1. We are impartial**
- 2. At pre-application the developer is the focus**
- 3. The Examining Authority will be appointed after the application is submitted**
- 4. You may need to register to take part in the examination**

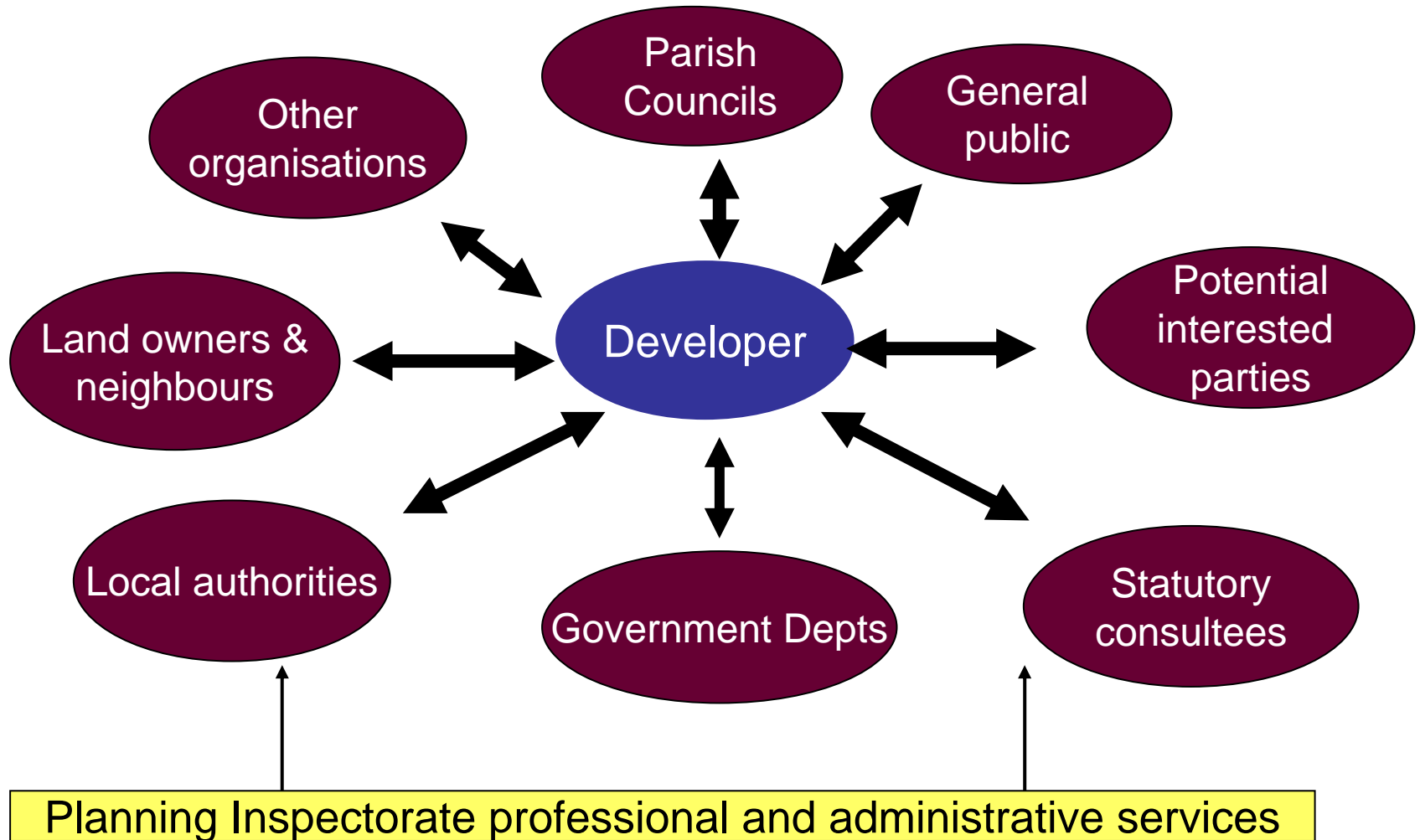


## Key Message 1: We are impartial

- The Planning Inspectorate (PINS) is an agency of Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG)
- PINS project team provides advice to communities, applicants and others about how to take part in the process and supports the decision makers (Examining Authority) in the running of the examination
- Examining Authority Panel members are vetted for conflicts of interest before they are appointed



## Key Message 2: At pre-application the developer is the focus





## Key Message 2: At pre-application the developer is the focus

# I object!

- Its important that you use the pre application stage to get informed about the application – even if you object in principle.
- Pre application is the main opportunity to influence the preparation of the application
- If you have concerns about the way the consultation is undertaken – contact your local authority and copy us in if you wish
- We will not comment on the pre application consultation until we issue our decision about whether or not we can accept the application for examination.



# Acceptance Stage

- Only 28 days to make the decision – checklist and decision letter published
- Primarily an administrative check – plans and documents
- We check the applicant has complied with the SoCC
- We check that there is evidence the applicant has “had regard” to the views put forward at pre application
- “Had regard” does not necessarily mean “agreed with”





## Key Message 3: The examining authority will be appointed after the application is submitted

- A Panel of up to 5 Examining Inspectors are appointed after the close of the registration period – known as the “Panel” or “Examining Authority”.
- Examining Inspectors are appointed according to their expertise and availability – interested parties will be informed directly about their appointment.
- Vetted for conflicts of interest before appointment.
- All communication with the Panel must be in public, either in writing or at hearings.



## Key Message 4: You may need to register to take part in the examination

- Registration will open “if” the application is accepted for examination
- Register a relevant representation to become an “Interested Party” – special status
- Easiest way to register will be to complete a form online via our website, on the Sizewell C project page.
- Your relevant representation can be a list of your main points – you can provide a more detailed representation at a later date if you want to.



The Planning Inspectorate

Waste Water Treatment Plants: **Thames Tideway Tunnel** by Thames Water

Acceptance Pre-examination Examination

[Find out more about the process >](#)

**i** You can now register as an interested party

*If you are unable to complete a registration form online and would like to register your interest, please call the helpline on: 0303 444 5000 to request a paper form. [Advice Note about Registering](#)*

[Register online](#)

Overview Application documents Project documents Advice given Representations

**About this project**

New tunnel for the transfer or storage of waste water

[Visit developer's website](#)

**Next action**

Registration closes on **Tuesday 28 May 2013 at 11:59pm**

**Dates for your diary**

**28/05/2013** - Registration of interested parties closes

**11/06/2013** - Deadline for applicant to certify compliance with notification requirements

**Location**

Cross London Project



**The location shown on the map is approximate at this stage.**

**Recent activity**

<b>i</b> The Planning Inspectorate is holding a series of events to help people understand the planning process, when to register and how to make a representation. <a href="#">See the poster for details of locations and dates.</a>	18 April 2013
<b>🗨️</b> Registration of interested parties begins Applicant's publicity regarding the examination published	17 April 2013
<b>🗨️</b> Decision on whether or not to accept the application for examination	27 March 2013
<b>🗨️</b> Application received by the Planning Inspectorate	28 February 2013

**What happens next**

Once the applicant has published and notified people of an accepted application, the Planning Inspectorate has approximately three months to prepare for the examination. During this stage, you will be able to register to become an interested party on the application. You will always have at least 28 days to register with us.

[View the acceptance letter](#)

**When to register**

- We will publish the date when you can start to register, the date will be made available in the box at the top of this page. We will tell you when registration ends in the same place.

**Follow project updates**

Twitter [@ThamesTunnel](#)

Key Message 4: You may need to register to take part in the examination

Our project pages

Press this button to register



# Why do I need to fill in a form?

- Required in legislation – “interested party”
- Provides us with all the information we need to be able to administer the application process
- Allows the Panel members to make an **initial** assessment of what they consider the principal issues to be.
- Participation is at the examining authority’s discretion if an individual or organisation is not a registered interested party.



# Parish Councillors /Council Members

- Be clear about whether you are representing the Council, yourself or a local group
- Engage with the developer during the pre examination stage – this is yours and the community's opportunity to influence the proposals
- The Examination is inquisitorial, led by the (Panel of) Inspectors
- Primarily a written process with set deadlines (timetable)
- 3 types of Hearings, each with a different purpose.
- Understand the scope of the examination and the primacy of National Planning Statements



# Effective ways to participate

- Consider forming a group with neighbours or others with the same views as you. Nominate a spokesperson(s).
- It is not necessary to read the whole application – site specific sections / topics
- The purpose of the Preliminary Meeting is to discuss **how** the application should be examined – not the merits of the application itself.
- Read the examination timetable and keep up to date with the progress of the examination regularly online or by visiting one of the deposit locations.
- Keep written submissions concise and to the point.
- Stick to any agenda issued by the Panel in advance of any hearings – the Panel will control the proceedings.
- Hearings are intended to supplement the written process, not an alternative.
- If possible, use the internet and email to engage with the system – more efficient and less wasteful of paper



# What happens during the examination?

- Interested Parties can make a written representation or rely on their relevant representation.
- Interested Parties can comment on others' representations.
- Interested Parties can respond to written questions posed by the Panel.
- Interested Parties can request that an Open Floor Hearing is held.
- Interested Parties can attend and speak at Open Floor or Issue Specific Hearings



The Planning  
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# Further advice and information

**Helpline:** 0303 444 5000

**email address:**

[enquiries@infrastructure.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@infrastructure.gsi.gov.uk)

**Advice Notes and information available on our web page  
(search “Planning Inspectorate Sizewell C”):**

<http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/projects/eastern/sizewell-c-new-nuclear-power-station/>

(set it as a “favourite”)