## **Guidance Notes - Public Access for Planning**

Caerphilly County Borough Council's Public Access system allows you to search and comment on Planning Applications online.

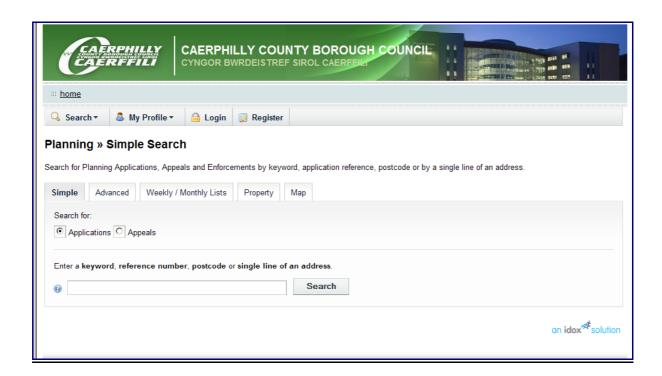
It also enables you to view the following information online:

- Planning Applications
- A list of planning applications validated or decided within a date range

Public Access also allows you to:

- Submit electronic comments on current applications
- Track applications and received notifications by email
- Search for planning applications and appeals using a variety of options and save the search.

Please note that not all planning applications have associated documents available online at this time.



A **Simple Search** is the recommended search method if you know the application number. Type the application number into the box and click **Search**.

An **Advanced Search** provides a wider range of categories to search under.

**Weekly/Monthly Lists** provides the facility to search applications that have been validated or decided within a specified week.

### Searching for Information

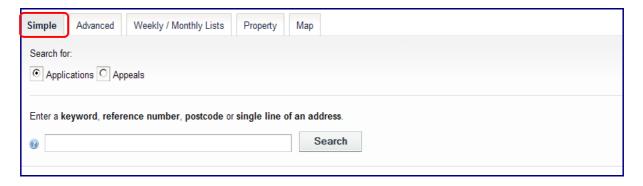
There are a number of different search options available. These options can be accessed from the **Search** option on the bar menu.



There are 5 different search options available:

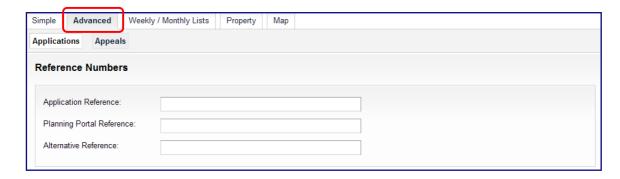
### Simple Search

A simple search allows you to search quickly for an application or appeal by entering some text that will help you identify it into the text box. The text can include an application reference number, a postcode or part of an address.



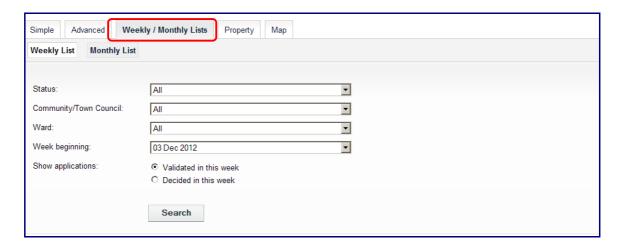
#### Advanced Search

The advanced search allows you to search using a mixture of fields and dates.



By default, the site will perform an Application search. To search for an appeal, simply select Appeals.

Select the information you require using one or more of the available fields and dates and click on **Search**.

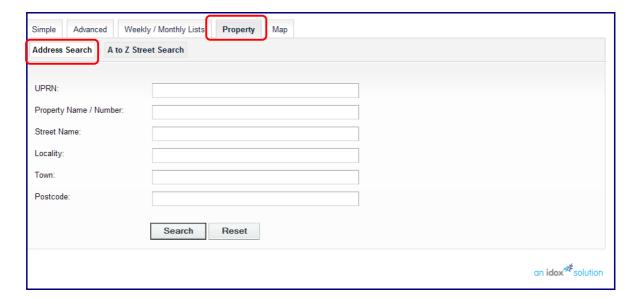


By default, the site will perform a **Weekly List** search. To search for a **Monthly List** select that option.

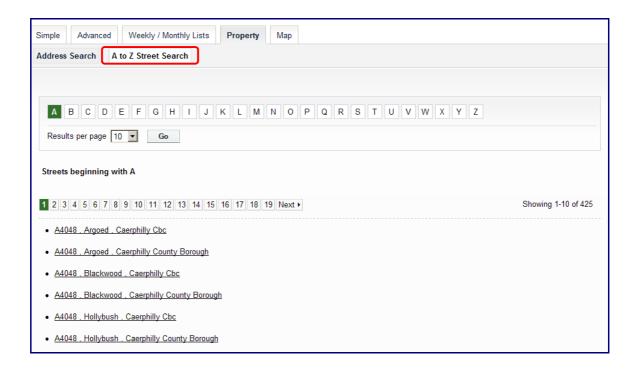
### **Property Search**

The property search will allow you to search for any property within Caerphilly County Borough.

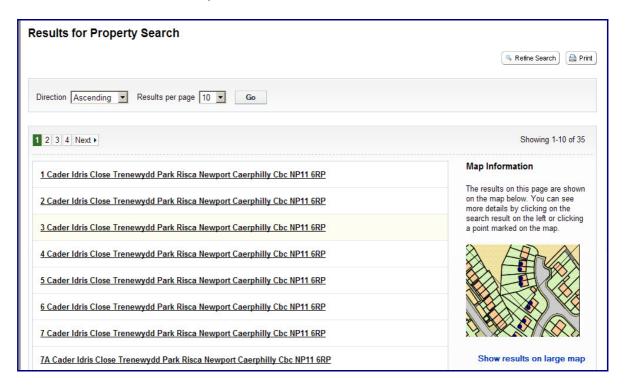
The Address Search will search any part of the address including the postcode.



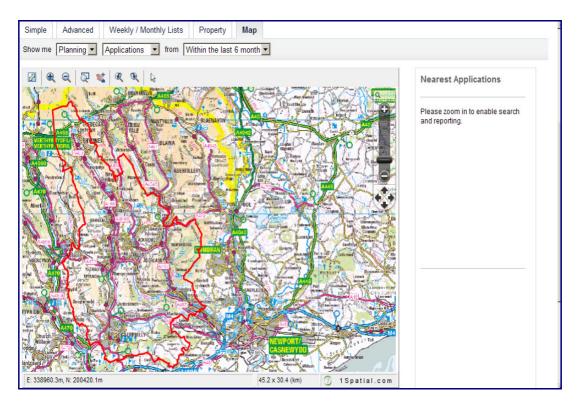
The A to Z Search provides an alphabetical list of streets to search by.



The results from both type of address search return a list of addresses to be selected and a location map.

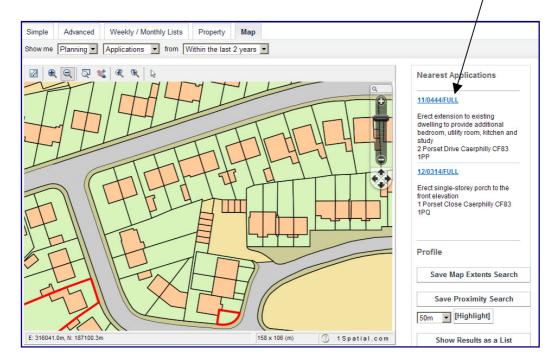


The map search feature allows you to identify applications using the interactive map. Using the drop down menus select the information required. Use the map tools to help you zoom in and locate the desired case/property. As you move around the map using zoom/pan controls the summary list on the right hand side will automatically update.



By default the system will show applications within the last 6 months. The search can be adjusted by using the drop down list.

Application details will be displayed on the right hand side of the map and indicated in red on the map. Further information can be viewed by clicking on the application details.

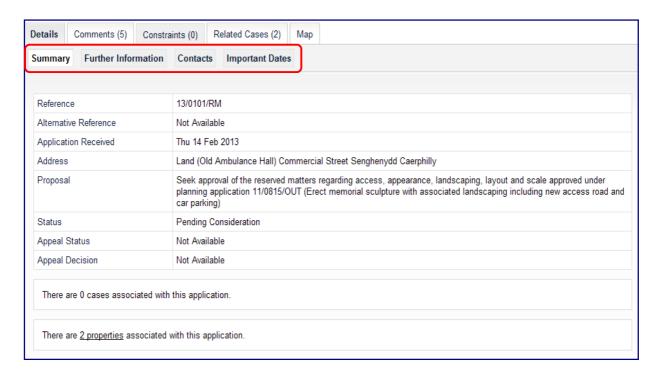


# Viewing information about an Application

Once you have selected an application from your search results the application details will be displayed.

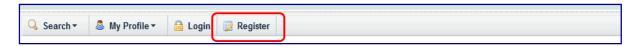
The Details tab shows summary information relating to the application.

By changing the tab further information can be accessed such as contact details and important dates.

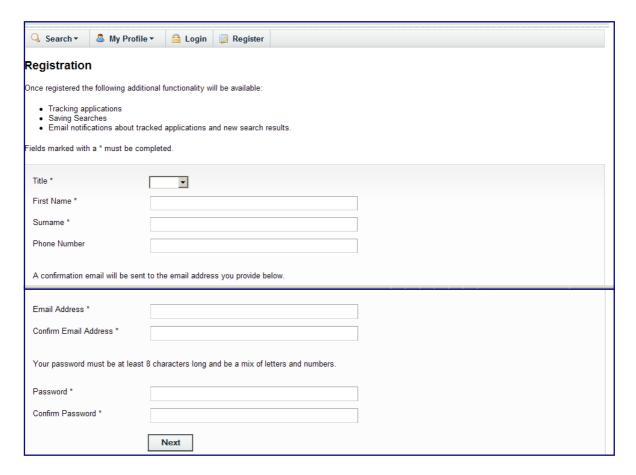


Anyone can use Public Access for Planning to view planning applications, but to take advantage of the advanced profile features that allow you to save searches and track applications you must first register a user account.

To create a new user account click on Register in the menu bar.



After clicking Register, complete personal details and click on Next.

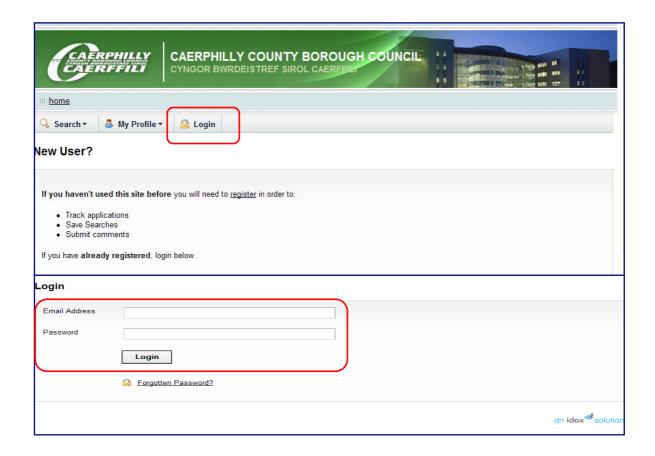


On the following screens enter your Postcode, click Next again and select your address from the drop down list. On the final screen check that your details are correct, click to read the Terms and Conditions and then click Next.

Once a new user account has been created a confirmation email will be sent to your email address.

From this confirmation email, click on the hyperlink to complete the registration process.

After you have completed the registration process, click on the **Login** in the menu bar and type in the email address and password you have created.



# Forgotten Password

If you forget your password, click on **Forgotten Password**. This will prompt you to enter your email address and a new password.

A confirmation email will be sent to your email address.

### Logout

When you are finished using the Public Access system, remember to log out by clicking the Logout button on the menu bar.

# Viewing and Submitting Comments

If you wish to submit any comments regarding an application click on the comments tab to view the application and then submit your comments.

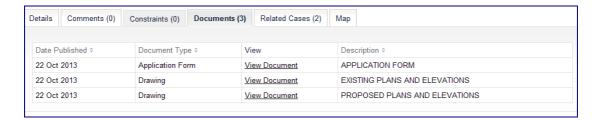
NB: You must register and log in to make any comments.

If the consultation period has expired an advisory note will be displayed.



#### **Documents**

If you wish to view any documents that relate to the application, click on the documents tab and the documents will open in a new window via the View Document Link.



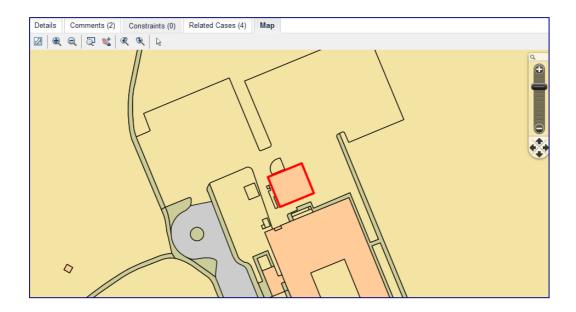
#### **Related Cases**

Click on the Related Cases tab to view a summary of additional information relating to the application. This may include applications, appeals and property information.



#### Map

Click on the map tab to display the area of the application on the map

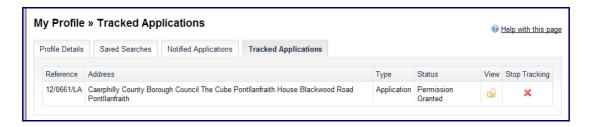


To be able to use this facility you need to be a registered user.

Select the application you wish to track, then click on the track icon highlighted below.



The application will be added to your list of tracked application within your user profile.

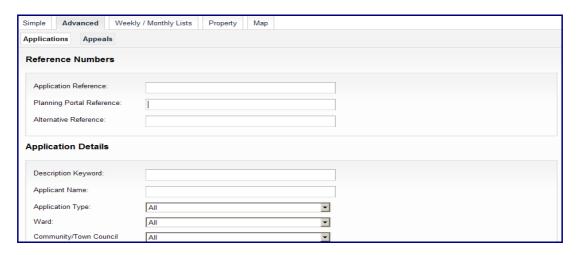


Any updates that are made to the tracked application (such as a change in the status or a document added) an email will be sent to you advising you of the update.

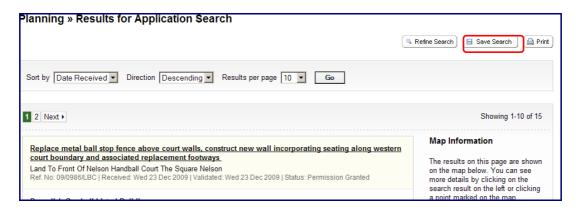
You are also able to log into Public Access and view the details through the Notified and Tracked Applications section within 'My Profile'.

It is possible to save a particular search based on search criteria entered through the Simple or Advanced Search screen or using the Map screen. This allows commonly used searches to be saved and reused without having to enter in the criteria each time.

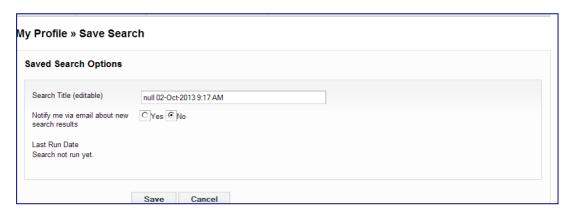
For example, within the Advanced Application search screen select the Application Type and the Ward from the drop down list and select search.



The results will be displayed. Click Save Search, highlighted below.

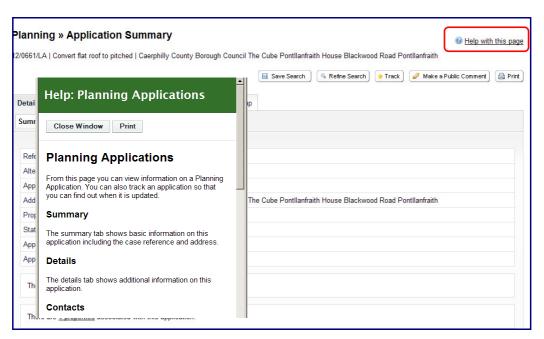


The following will allow you to enter a search title which is more meaningful to you. Select save and the search will be added to the Save Search screen within your profile.



#### Help

There are help notes available on each page, which can be accessed by clicking on the Help with this page link. This will open up a separate window providing you with an explanation of the page you are on.



Alternatively, please contact Caerphilly County Borough Council at: planadmin@caephilly.gov.uk