

22 March 2018

Andrew Dean Hardwick  
Derbyshire, United Kingdom

Dear Mr. Hardwick,

**Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance  
by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland with the provisions of the  
Convention on access to justice in relation to the costs regime for planning appeals  
(ACCC/C/2017/157)**

On 20 December 2017, the secretariat of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) received from you the above communication addressed to the Compliance Committee of the Convention. The communication concerns compliance by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland with the provisions of the Convention in connection with the costs regime for appeals under section 288 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The communication was submitted in accordance with the provisions of chapter VI of the annex to decision I/7 of the Meeting of the Parties.

The communication has been registered under the symbol ACCC/C/2017/157 which you are invited to cite in future correspondence on the matter. The main documentation relating to the communication is available on the Committee's web site at: <http://www.unece.org/env/pp/cc/com.html>.

The Compliance Committee, having considered the admissibility of the communication at its sixtieth meeting (Geneva, 12-15 March 2018), has on a preliminary basis determined it to be admissible in accordance with paragraph 20 of the annex to decision I/7. A copy of the preliminary determination on admissibility is attached. Please note, however, that the Committee has not reached any conclusions with respect to the compliance issues referred to in the communication.

Please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,



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Fiona Marshall  
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

Cc: Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva  
Mr. Ahmed Azam, Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland – National Focal Point

Enc: Preliminary determination on admissibility