

DataSpace Live Articles

'Local Authority Building Control - Adapting to change in 2017'

It's that time of year again when everything is getting back to normal after the festive break, when we begin to ask ourselves 'what's in store for this new year?' Building Control Managers especially will be wondering what obstacles and challenges they will be expected to meet head on. Local authority building control has been changing at an alarming rate. The limited funding that local authority building control has to work with sees its departments dwindling, its office space being taken away and either extra work being taken on to bring in some sorely needed funds or jobs being contracted out simply because they don't have the resources to undertake them. Increasingly their shrinking office environment is forcing employees to desk-share or work remotely from home while boxes of paper applications are suddenly unacceptable and need in of urgent removal. These combined pressures are seeing the merging of more building control partnerships than ever before. From as little as two departments to as many as five joining forces they share their workloads, often operate with less staff, are crammed into limited spaces or divided across different sites and homes.

Against these pressures, the name of the game is now finding a way to adapt. So with applications being dealt with by increasingly smaller teams working from different locations, everything needs to be more efficient – processing applications needs to be quicker and more systematic, access needs to be more flexible, sharing needs to be easier, consultations simpler and inspections more automated and straightforward. The answer – electronic data and one solution that offers all the above. We might be a bit biased, but DataSpace Live really does do it all!



DSLive enables the receipt, processing, administration, management, inspection, sharing, consultation, approval, storage and archiving of applications electronically. Oh and we're working on Plan-Checking and Reporting too. Every task can be done online using just DSLive from any location with internet connection in the office, out on site, or at home, and as for inspections – well, they can be done even without internet connection.

All our tools are designed with the entire building control process in mind and to complete tasks quickly, easily and efficiently, making life easier for building control teams however many or few in number they happen to be. We speak to local authority building control departments about their problems and needs on a daily basis and because we know how building control is changing, DSLive is changing too – continually developing and transforming into the solution that you need. So if this year throws you a curve ball or two, maybe Building Control Managers will rest a little easier knowing there is someone they can turn to to face the challenges with them.