

From field: COMPASS Online ([dcshaymarket.com](mailto:dcshaymarket.com))  
Subject: Important changes to COMPASS Online

Dear COMPASS Online Subscriber,

Following on from my email before Christmas, I am pleased to tell you about further developments to COMPASS Online. These changes affect the information displayed about planning appeals and are designed to make it easier to decide if you wish to download the full planning appeal. Exact details about the changes are given below and will come into effect on the 15<sup>th</sup> March. Your access to COMPASS Online may therefore be disrupted over the weekend of the 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> March.

### **Display Results Changes**

When entering a search term, the system returns a display of results containing a summary of each appeal. This is the Display Results screen. These results are designed to show you in brief the key facts about each appeal in order for you to check the relevance of the results, based on your search criteria. To assist in this, we have added some additional fields, the inspector's decision (Allowed/Dismissed etc) and a flag to alert you if the case has subsequently gone to court.

### **Further Details Display**

If, having looked at the Display Results screen, you need more information in order to decide if the appeal is relevant, you can click on the DCS number at the top of the record to see the Further Details Display. Previously the cost of this display was the same as for the appeal but with some amendments to make this display more useful, this will now be **free of charge**. Along with all the abstracts for this appeal and any court case information, we now show details of the various index terms our COMPASS analysts have applied to the appeal. This enables you to quickly see what the main issues are, without having to read the appeal description. These index terms can also be used to find similar appeals, simply copy the index term (text only) and use this term in your search, selecting the appropriate index field.

**E.g.** You search COMPASS looking for appeals discussing issues around the problem of increased traffic from a development. You search using keyword traffic and find a very useful appeal, displaying the record in the Further Details Display, you see Issue Code 63 "Traffic Generation". You can then search "Traffic Generation" in the issue code field to find appeals dealing with traffic generation as the main issue.

Simply click on the DCS Number, date or authority of the appeal in the Display Results screen to see this display.

To see samples of both these display options, visit the COMPASS Online website [www.compasssearch.co.uk](http://www.compasssearch.co.uk) and click on the What's New button.

If you have any questions about the above changes or would like help using index terms in your searching, please call customer services on 01452 835 820 or email [dcshaymarket.com](mailto:dcshaymarket.com).

Best regards,

Martin Shingler  
DCS Editor

PS if you have received this email more than once please contact us immediately so we can amend your details on our subscription database.