

Since the Summer of 2007 issue of PG Lore the Government has pressed ahead with its programme of implementing Home Information Packs. From 10 September 2007 all domestic properties with three bedrooms or more being marketed for sale have been required to have a HIP (unless they were already on the market before 1 August 2007).

The requirement to have a HIP was extended to all properties on 14th December 2007. The introduction of the inclusion of three or more bedroom properties has been controversial. The Government argues from its consultation process that HIPs are starting to reduce costs and improve transparency in the housing market, whilst opponents argue that this further implementation has caused a sharp drop in the number of properties being placed on the market.

The Government is due to make a further announcement to set a "drop dead date" which will be the point at which they require a HIP for all properties regardless of the number of bedrooms and when the property was first marketed.

At PG we have organised ourselves so we are able to provide HIPs. The advantage of our HIP is two fold. One, you can be sure it is compliant with current legislation and two, the documents, and the time spent collating them can be used towards the conveyancing process. This may ultimately save time and money – which after all is what they are supposed to achieve.

Also, PG HIPs are not tied to any estate agency, and therefore you can move them around thus allowing you to change estate agents for the purpose of marketing or even allowing you to market your own property without any additional cost.

If you require any further advice or assistance in the preparation of a HIP please contact Jason Eades, a senior solicitor in our residential property team.



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