

## SPON'S PRACTICAL GUIDE TO ALTERATIONS AND EXTENSIONS – 2nd Edition

By Andrew R Williams

Andrew Williams has provided an easy-to-read approach to the subject based upon his own extensive experience. It would suit those who aspire to take on such work on a DIY basis or those who are relatively new to the design, submission and construction of alterations and extensions as a profession. The areas covered include the current requirements of Planning Acts, Building Control legislation and the Party Wall etc. Act 1996 following on with guidance on making applications showing examples of the appropriate forms. Outtime details of forms of construction with the statutory requirements are compartmented into conveniently laid out chapters. The writer then goes on to deal with the issue of the consultant (designer)/client relationship and describes items of good practice in this respect with sample letters and documents. The appendices

provide a comprehensive set of checklists, a standard specification, terminology and local authority requirements together with a typical planning policy document and lists of useful contacts. Frequently throughout the text useful web links and contacts are quoted as well as some useful personal comment by the author of his own approach to some issues as if he were speaking to you in person.

The guide provides a comprehensive cover in a concise form of most aspects of the subject. However, it only deals with structural support over openings and external drainage (both important issues) in passing and these aspects could have been expounded further. Some of the construction details are regional in their form and the local authority contacts listed are centred on a North West England location, but similar arrangements will exist elsewhere

It would provide a useful reference to have at one's fingertips especially when involved in creating an alteration or extension to a domestic property and relatively unfamiliar with

construction practice, current legislation and statutory control requirements.

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