

# YourHomeReport.



#### **Material Information Seminar**

Simon Gill, PSG Cornwall and YourHomeReport.

John Tutchier, Cornwall Trading Standards



#### This event is sponsored by:





# YourHomeReport.



#### **Agenda**

Simon Gill, YourHomeReport.

Material Information vs Upfront Property Information

John Tutchier, Cornwall Trading Standards

**Material Information Guidance** 

Simon Gill, YourHomeReport.

Material Information in Practice

**Round Table** 

**Next Steps** 



# Material Information vs Upfront Property Information

Simon Gill, YourHomeReport.



#### Who are we?







- Operating for 19 years
- Been involved in 175,000 house sales
- Experienced team
- Knowledge of both sale and purchase side
- Have been trialling upfront property information for over a year



#### **Material Information**

NATIONAL TRADING STANDARDS

Estate and Letting Agency Team

Protecting Consumers Safeguarding Businesses

# IMPROVING THE PROVISION OF MATERIAL INFORMATION FOR PROPERTY SALES AND LETTINGS





### Why?

- Consumers lose £1,571 on average when a transaction falls through
- Estate agents lose an average of £4,123 in commission for every property sale that falls through
- 87% of respondents agree that property portals should include all key information about a home in their property listing
- 54% of respondents said that they would be less likely to buy or rent a property where information was missing on the property listing

[National Trading Standards, 2023]

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### Additionally...

- Fall-through rate is 24%
- Time to completion is 210 days
- Considerable lack of certainty until exchange
- 1 in 5 delays between exchange and completion



#### Key messages...

- Agents should proactively request material information to create particulars
- Carry out Verification checks on the information provided to ensure accuracy
- Material information should be prominently and clearly displayed
- Property listings should be updated, and interested parties informed, as soon as possible when material information becomes known or has changed

### **Upfront Information**

- Most Property Information is obtained by a buyer of a property to help them decide whether to buy a property or not
- Upfront Property Information is where this information is obtained by a seller before their property is marketed and provided to a potential buyer to save time and highlight issues from day one

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# Material Information

**John Tutchier** 

**Senior Trading Standards Officer** 





www.cornwall.gov.uk

#### Material Information in Practice...

• Part A – Property Information Questionnaire

 Part B – Property Information Questionnaire / Property data services / Surveyor

 Part C – Property specific searches / Property data services / Surveyor / Conveyancer



We acknowledge that property agents are not experts in the fields below and are generally not qualified to interpret title deeds and associated contracts, or to make judgements on building safety.

Where a matter in this section is identified and further information is required, we recommend that property owners/sellers and agents seek the services of qualified professionals (including, where relevant, a surveyor or conveyancer) to assist with the interpretation of the matter identified.



#### Surveyor

- Physical characteristics of the property
  - Material type / materials used in construction
  - Construction type
- Building Safety
  - Unsafe cladding
  - Integrity of building materials used in construction
  - Risk of collapse
  - At-risk wooden decking for external structures
  - Lack of emergency lighting where required
  - Insufficient fire/smoke alarm systems

**—** ...



#### Conveyancer

#### Restrictions and Rights

- Restrictive covenants
- Lease restrictions
- Land Charges (supported by local search)
- **—** ...

#### Easements

- Easements
- Public rights of way (supported by local search)
- **—** ...



#### Property data services...

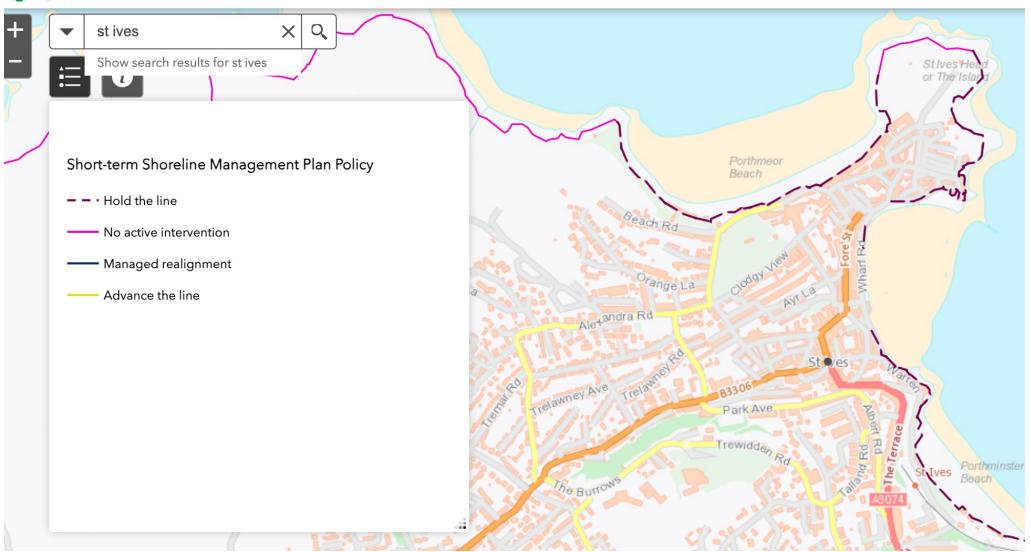
- Council Tax band (HMRC)
- Broadband coverage (Openreach)
- Mobile phone coverage (Ofcom)
- <u>Land Charges</u> (Cornwall Council)
- <u>Public rights of way</u> (Cornwall Council)
- Property Flooding History (Environment Agency)
- Property Flooding Risk (Environment Agency)
- Planning permissions (Cornwall Council)
- <u>Coastal erosion</u> (Environment Agency)





#### **Coastal Erosion**





#### But...

- Time-consuming and tricky
- Free information is incomplete
- Free information can take a long time to arrive
- Evidence in disputes:
  - How do you prove IF you've checked?
  - How do you prove WHEN you've checked?
- Duty of care to potential buyer?
- Does it give you peace of mind?



### YourHomeReport trial

- 73% of respondents instructed their solicitor when they put their property on the market
- 82% said they were prepared to gather paperwork as soon as the property is marketed
- Examples of successes:
  - Identified forgotten owners
  - Found inconsistencies in property boundaries
  - Enabled the local search to be generated in 24 hours once a purchaser is found
  - Given useful information about the quirks of buying Cornwall



#### Your Home Report.

**Carnkie Farm** 

**Carnkie** 

Helston

**Cornwall** 

**TR13 0DU** 

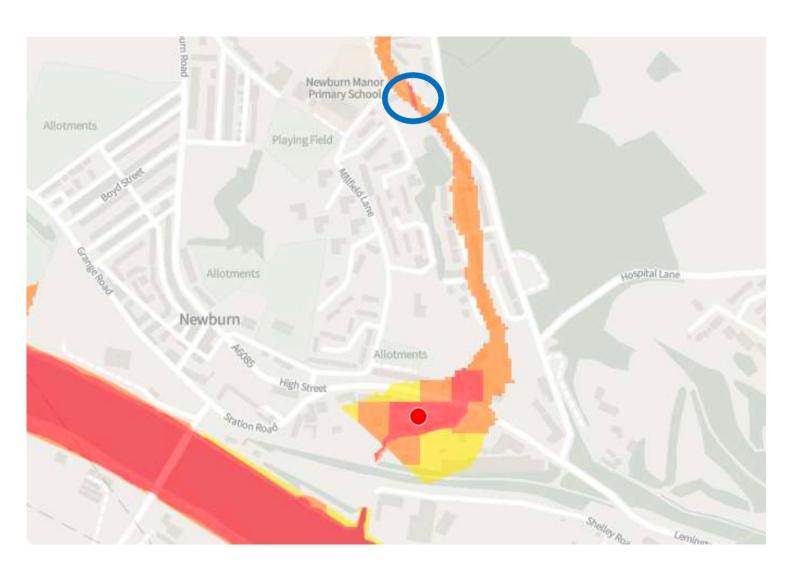
UPRN: 010012968975

#### What does YourHomeReport contain?

- Land Registry Documents
- Energy Performance Certificate
- Local Land Charges
- Public Rights of Way
- Planning Permissions
- Planning Search
- Flood Search
- Mining Search
- Local Property Purchase Factsheet
- ... And whatever you'd like to add



# Flooding





## Coastal erosion and flooding

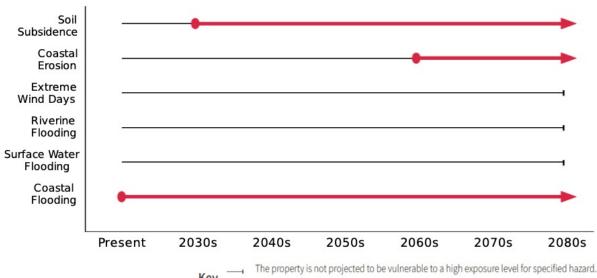
#### Site Location



#### Hazard Exposure Timeline

(High Emissions\*\*)

The hazard exposure timeline identifies **when** each hazard at the property location will reach the **high exposure level** under a **High Emissions Scenario\*\***.



The property is not projected to be vulnerable to a high exposure level for specified hazard.

The property is projected to be vulnerable to a high exposure level for specified hazard.



# Planning



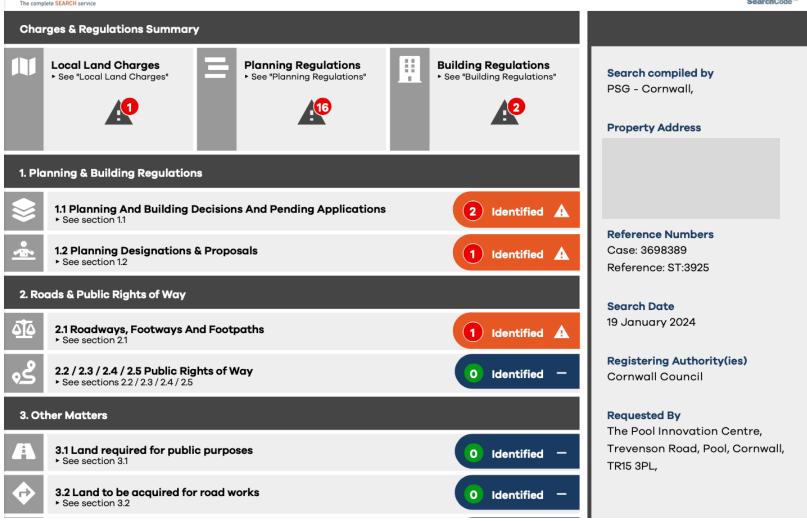


#### **Local Search**



#### RESIDENTIAL REGULATED LOCAL AUTHORITY SEARCH

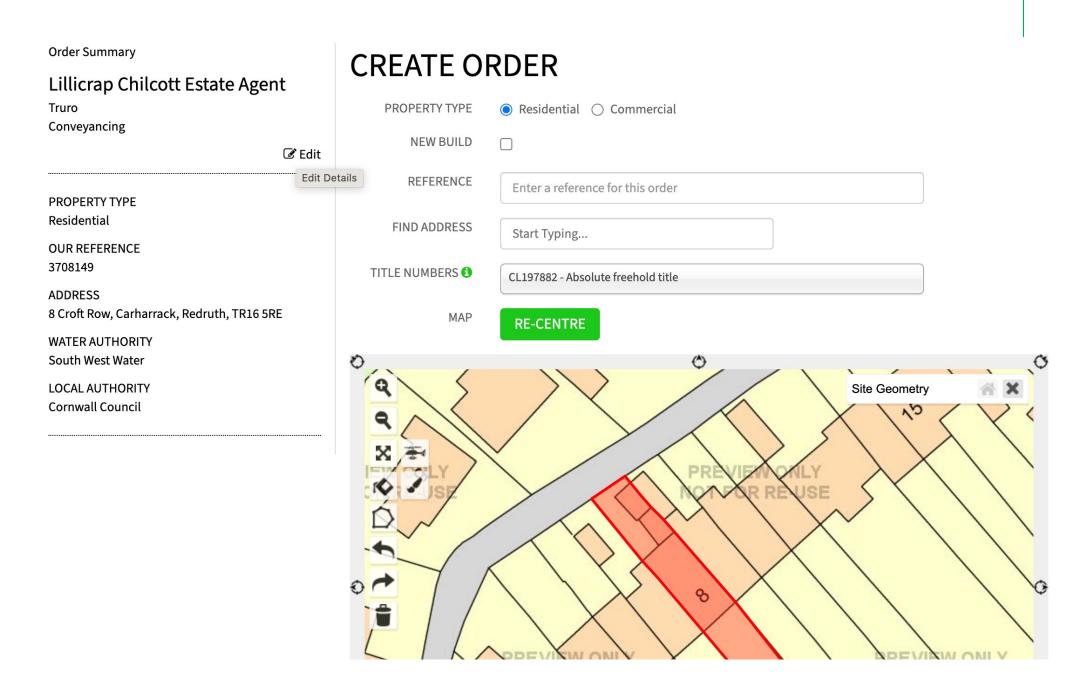






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### **Ordering Process**





### 

**Order Summary** 

#### Lillicrap Chilcott Estate Agent

Truro Conveyancing

#### RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY SEARCHES

SELECT PRODUCTS	
LAND REGISTRY PRODUCTS	•
DUE DILIGENCE REPORTS	•
DYE & DURHAM ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS	•
MINING REPORTS	•
LOCAL AND DRAINAGE SEARCHES	•
CLIMATE CHANGE	•
RESIDENTIAL EPCS AND FLOORPLANS	•
NON-DOMESTIC EPCS AND FLOORPLANS	•
YOURHOMEREPORT	•

### **Upfront Information**

- Material Information provision will move to:
  - Simple screening
  - Bare minimum of information provided where necessary

- But... we have an opportunity
  - Let's embrace the upfront information concept
  - Let's offer more property information from day one

Buyer?

Surveyor?





Vendor





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#### **Round Table**

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**Material Information Guidance** 



### The Digital Property Revolution?

- Digital completion of PIQ at point of onboarding
- Sharing of AML/ Identity checks in transaction
- Use of AI to check property title?
- Sharing of cost/ revenue of due diligence/ upfront information cost between property professionals
- Move towards property logbooks?



### Thank you!

#### Simon Gill, YourHomeReport.

simon@yourhomereport.co.uk

#### John Tutchier, Cornwall Trading Standards

john.tutchier@cornwall.gov.uk





