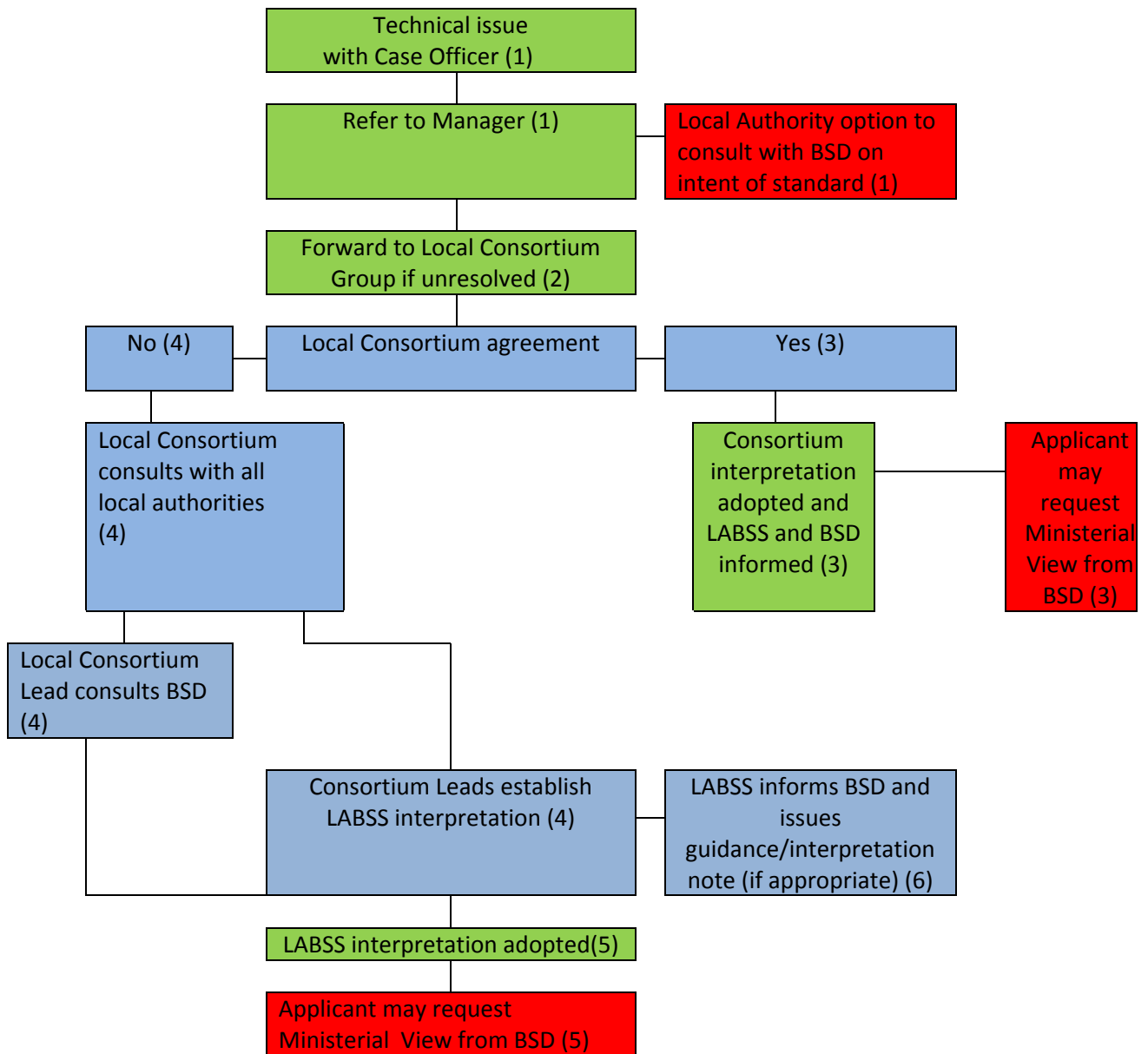


**DISPUTES RESOLUTION
 ALTERNATIVE APPROACH AND TECHNICAL INTERPRETATION**



Notes:

Actions by Local Authority
Actions by LABSS
Actions by BSD

ADVICE FOR APPLICANTS

This Dispute Resolution Process has been developed by Local Authority Building Standards Scotland (LABSS) and the approach is supported by the Building Standards Division of the Scottish Government.

- (1) Both pre application and during the assessment of a warrant application you may propose an alternative approach to compliance or may dispute the case officer's interpretation of a building standard. The dispute is referred to the local authority's most senior building standards practitioner, who may, depending on the complexity or type of dispute, consult with BSD on the intent of the standard.
- (2) If you remain dissatisfied, the dispute can be escalated to the Local Consortium Group. For example, if you are proposing development in Edinburgh the opinion of Scottish Borders Council, Fife, Midlothian, East Lothian and West Lothian shall be sought. Responses shall be provided within 5 working days.
- (3) Where the Consortium agrees with the Local Authority, you will be advised and the case is closed. In all cases the decision will be advised to BSD and all local authorities in Scotland to aid consistency in interpretation. If you have submitted an application you may request that the local authority seek a formal view from BSD.
- (4) Where there is not agreement within the Consortium, the case is referred to all local authorities through their Local Consortium Groups. BSD will also be consulted. The views will be collated and LABSS will establish an interpretation within 10 working days.
- (5) You will be advised of the outcome and the case is closed. Scottish Ministers can be requested for a view on a building warrant application. When a resolution case has been raised and determined, a formal Ministerial View may still be requested through BSD.
- (6) In all cases the decision will be advised to all local authorities to aid consistency in interpretation. BSD is informed of all LABSS interpretations.