



<b>Development Control Committee</b>	<b>Thursday, 24 May 2018</b>	<b>Matter for Information</b>
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**Report Title:** **Planning Enforcement Activity Report (2017/18)**

**Report Author(s):** **William Holloway (Planning Enforcement Officer)**

<b>Purpose of Report:</b>	To provide a yearly summary of the Council's planning enforcement activity as the Local Planning Authority (LPA) for 2017-2018.								
<b>Report Summary:</b>	<p>During the period 22 March 2017 until 9 April 2018, the enforcement activity that has taken place is as follows:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Number of cases on hand at the start of the period</td> <td style="text-align: right;">108</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Number of new cases registered in the period</td> <td style="text-align: right;">97</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Number of cases closed in the period</td> <td style="text-align: right;">106</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Number of live cases currently on-hand</td> <td style="text-align: right;">42</td> </tr> </table>	Number of cases on hand at the start of the period	108	Number of new cases registered in the period	97	Number of cases closed in the period	106	Number of live cases currently on-hand	42
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<b>Recommendation(s):</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. The contents of the report be noted;</b></li> <li><b>2. The meetings of the Development Control (Enforcement) Sub-Committee be herewith suspended for a further period of one-year (i.e. 12 months); and</b></li> <li><b>3. The proposal for the next Planning Enforcement Activity Report to be written up to cover the period up to 31 March 2019, to be approximately in line with the end of the municipal year, and repeated annually thereafter, be approved.</b></li> </ol>								
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<b>Corporate Priorities:</b>	Effective Service Provision (CP2)								
<b>Vision and Values:</b>	Accountability (V1)								
<b>Report Implications:-</b>									
Legal:	There may be implications should formal enforcement action be taken over any current investigation including preparation of the formal notices and prosecutions.								

Financial:	There may be implications should any current enforcement investigation result in formal notices being served leading to direct action, prosecution and, or, appeals with cost applications.
Corporate Risk Management:	Decreasing Financial Resources (CR1) Reputation Damage (CR4) Regulatory Governance (CR6)
Equalities Assessment (EA):	Not applicable.
Human Rights:	There are no implications directly arising from this report.
<b>Statutory Officers' Comments:-</b>	
Head of Paid Service:	The report is satisfactory.
Chief Finance Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Monitoring Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
<b>Consultees:</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Background Papers:</b>	<a href="#">Report to Development Control Committee on 17 February 2016</a>
<b>Appendices:</b>	None.

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 At the meeting of the Development Control Committee on 17 February 2016, Members resolved that for a period of one-year (i.e. 12 months) that the Development Control (Enforcement) Sub-Committee would be suspended given the levels of input now required following appointment of a permanent Planning Enforcement Officer in February 2015, a noticeable decrease in the level of cases on-hand and the time some cases had been on-hand before being dealt with expeditiously.
- 1.2 As Members are aware, the Council as Local Planning Authority (LPA) is monitored on its performance in the determination of planning submissions on a quarterly-basis with the expectation that the Council exceeds targets set by Central Government.

## 2. Information

- 2.1 During the period 22 March 2017 until 9 April 2018, the enforcement activity that has taken place is as follows:

Number of cases on hand at the start of the period	108
Number of new cases registered in the period	97
Number of cases closed in the period	106
Number of live cases currently on-hand	42

- 2.2 During the period 22 March 2017 until 9 April 2018, a total of 3 formal Enforcement Notices (EN) were served and, of those: 1 is currently under appeal; 1 is awaiting for works to be completed by the compliance date; and the other being considered for a prosecution proceedings and, or, consideration of direct action being taken by the Council in default.

- 2.3 During the period 22 March 2017 until 9 April 2018, there were two appeals against the service of Enforcement Notices: one of which was won by the Council and the other is currently still going through the appeal process.
- 2.4 Currently, the oldest case on-hand is 5 years old and the property in question is on its way to being refurbished and bought back into use. Planning Enforcement continually monitors the site to ensure that this occurs in a timely manner following years of negotiations.
- 2.5 As Members will be able to glean from the above, enforcement cases continue to decrease in both number and the Planning Enforcement Officer can see no reason to suppose that this will not continue to be the case for the foreseeable future.
- 2.6 Action taken by the Planning Enforcement Officers during this time period has also led to a substantial number of retrospective planning applications being received to regularise breaches of control.