

TITLE OF REPORT: Enforcement Team Activity

REPORT OF: Anneliese Hutchinson, Service Director – Climate Change, Compliance, Planning and Transport

Purpose of the Report

1. To advise the Committee of the activity of the Enforcement Team since the last Committee meeting.

Background

2. The Enforcement team deal with proactive and reactive investigations in relation to Planning, Highway and Waste related matters.

Recommendations

3. It is recommended that the Committee note the report.

Within the date range commencing 26.05.22 and ending 22.06.22 the enforcement team has received 125 new service requests. The enforcement team currently has 588 cases under investigation.

Type of complaint	New complaints received	Cases allocated to officer	Cases resolved	Pending prosecutions
PLANNING	42	35	32	0
HIGHWAYS	17	11	17	0
ABANDONED VEHICLES	47	40 active cases remain	41	0
WASTE	19	19	7	1
TOTALS	125	115	97	1

COURT HEARINGS

Gateshead Council v OM Properties Investment Co Ltd. Appeal against Notice pursuant to Section 78 Building Act 1984. South Tyneside Magistrates. Tuesday 21st June 2022 at 10.30.

This was an appeal hearing relating to a Building Act Notice served on the owners of the former Kwik Save building in Felling.

The appeal did go through, although there was uncertainty from the magistrates regarding whether the appellant had the right to bring the appeal as he is not a director of the company. However, the appellant stated there was a legal document confirming he had permission to deal with all legal affairs of the company which was produced in 1998. The hearing stepped down for a few hours for him to find this document. Instead, he sent in a letter from the director of the company confirming this but stating this original 1998 document was with their accountant. The Magistrates asked the appellant to swear on oath. Magistrates were told Gateshead Council did not accept the evidence but allowed the appeal.

A trial has been set for the 23rd of August 2022 and there was a direction set that the company must send us the 1998 document by the 20th of July.