

TITLE OF REPORT: Enforcement Team Activity

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

Purpose of the Report

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

Background

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

Recommendations

- It is recommended that the Committee note the report.

Within the date range commencing 04.05.23 and ending 30.05.23 the enforcement team has received 122 new service requests. The enforcement team currently has 630 cases under investigation.

TYPE OF SERVICE REQUEST	NEW SERVICE REQUESTS RECEIVED	CASES ALLOCATED TO OFFICER	CASES RESOLVED	UNDER INVESTIGATION	PENDING PROSECUTIONS
Planning	27	10	33	279	0
Empty/vacant properties & sites	5	5	0	62	0
Highways	20	2	13	160	0
Abandoned vehicles	44	11	49	11	0
Waste investigations	26	26	20	118	0

TOTALS	122	54	115	630	0
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COURT HEARINGS

The Big Wish Ltd were prosecuted in the magistrates Court on May 17th following a number of unauthorised advertisements for the 'Winter Wonderland' event at Newcastle Racecourse which were located around the borough. The company had been advised in writing of their legal obligations that displaying adverts without authorisation was an offence. Despite efforts to secure compliance the adverts remained in situ without authorisation.

The defendants did not attend court and no correspondence was offered to the court in advance of the hearing. An application was made to the court for it to be heard in the company's absence. The case was found in the Council's favour with **a Fine of £1500, Costs of £393.05 and a Surcharge of £600. The Total of £2493.05 to be paid in full in 28 days.**

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