

East Area Planning Sub-Committee

5th July 2012

Report of the Director of City and Environmental Services

Enforcement Cases - Update

Summary

1. The purpose of this report is to provide Members with a continuing quarterly update on the number of enforcement cases currently outstanding for the area covered by this Sub-Committee.

Background

- 2. Members have received reports on the number of outstanding enforcement cases within the Sub-Committee area, on a quarterly basis, since July 1998, this report continues this process.
- 3. Some of these cases have been brought forward as the result of information supplied by residents and local organisations, and therefore "The annexes to this report are marked as exempt under Paragraph 6 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as this information, if disclosed to the public would reveal that the Authority proposes to give, under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person, or that the Authority proposes to make an order or direction under any enactment".
- 4. In order to give Members an up to date report, the schedules attached have been prepared on the very latest day that they could be to be included in this report on this agenda.
- 5. Section 106 Agreements are monitored by the Enforcement team. A system has been set up to enable Officers to monitor payments required under the Agreement.

Current Position

6. 57 new cases were received for this area within the last quarter, 43 cases were closed and 339 remain outstanding.

Following the last quarter's record number of received cases (114) the new cases are slightly below the normal quarterly average although many of that previous high number are still being worked on.

To update members on staffing levels in the team, Tim Goodall started work with us as a temporary full time enforcement officer on June 11th. This contract runs until the end of September when the position with the secondment of officers to Union facility time will either be renewed for a further period or will come to an end. In the meantime Tim will be covering enforcement cases across the city and it is expected that this will significantly help with the situation in the east area of the city which does currently have the majority of the outstanding enforcement cases.

There are 103 Section 106 monitoring cases outstanding for this area after the full payment of 2 financial obligations in this quarter. These have brought in a total of £3628 of outstanding financial contributions attached to developments in the east area. Letters have gone out on some other developments where the contributions are now required and responses to these are awaited.

We currently still have 3 pending prosecutions for the failure to comply with enforcement notices which are currently with legal services and they have been in correspondence with the relevant parties. In this quarter we have served 2 enforcement notices with a further one drafted ready for service for which authorisation was signed some weeks ago. We have also received authorisation for 4 further notices during the last quarter and instructions are in the process of being sent over to legal services for the preparation of the notices.

Consultation

7. This is an information report for Members and therefore no consultation has taken place regarding the contents of the report.

Options

8. This is an information report for Members and therefore no specific options are provided to Members regarding the content of the report.

The Council Plan 2011-2015

9. The Council priorities for Building strong Communities and Protecting the Environment are relevant to the Planning Enforcement function. In particular enhancing the public realm by helping to maintain and improve the quality of York's streets and public spaces is an important part of the overall Development Management function, of which planning enforcement is part of.

10. Implications

- Financial None
- Human Resources (HR) None
- Equalities None
- Legal None
- Crime and Disorder None
- Information Technology (IT) None
- Property None
- Other None

Risk Management

11. There are no known risks.

Recommendations.

12. That Members note the content of the report.

Officers do try to update the individual reports and cases when necessary but it is not always possible to keep up with these straight away. Therefore if Members have any additional queries or questions about cases on this enforcement report then please email or telephone Matthew Parkinson or Alan Kendall by 5pm on Wednesday 4th July 2012. Please note that the cases are now presented in Parish order so hopefully this will make it easier for members to reference cases in their respective areas.

Also, if Members identify any cases which they consider are not now expedient to pursue and / or they consider could now be closed, giving reasons, then if they could advise officers either at the meeting or in writing, then that would be very helpful in reducing the number of outstanding cases.

Reason: To update Members on the number of outstanding enforcement cases within the Sub-Committees area.

Contact Details

Author: Chief Officer Responsible for the report: Matthew Parkinson Michael Slater Planning Enforcement Assistant Director (Planning and Team Leader. Sustainable Development) Tel. No: 551657 22/6/2012 Report Date Dept Name: City and Approved **Environmental Services.** Chief Officer's name: Michael Slater Title: Assistant Director (Planning and Sustainable Development). Report Date 22/6/2012 V Approved **Specialist Implications Officer(s)** List information for all Implication ie Financial Implication ie Legal Name Name Title Title Tel No. Tel No. Wards Affected: All Wards

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

Environment and Development Services Business Plan (2000/2001).

Report to Area Sub-Committee in July 2010 – Enforcement Cases Update.

Annexes

Annex A - Enforcement Cases – Update (Confidential)