

**Planning Control Committee**

**21<sup>st</sup> August 2025**

**\*PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

**Planning Enforcement Quarterly Report**

**INFORMATION NOTE OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION MANAGER**

**1.0 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report is prepared in order to provide an overview of the Planning Enforcement service to the Planning Control Committee.
- 1.2 The Planning Enforcement Team has now completed the forward plan that established a series of reviews and actions over a period of 12 months. This document therefore reports on the standing items for the service in response to investigating and resolving alleged breaches across the district.

**2.0 STRATEGIC CONTEXT**

- 2.1 Planning Compliance is concerned with works which have taken place in breach of planning control as set out in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended). The Enforcement Policy was updated in 2024 and is located as Appendix E in the Corporate Enforcement Plan. This sets out the Council's commitment to delivering effective planning enforcement and its contribution to residents and visitors of North Herts.

**3.0 TEAM STRUCTURE**

- 3.1 The Planning Enforcement Team is comprised of 1 Team Leader, 1 x Senior Compliance Officer, 2 x Compliance Officers, 1 x S106 Monitoring and Compliance Officer (part-time) and 1 Technical Support Officer (part-time).
- 3.2 Members are asked to note that Abigail DaBell joined the team as a Senior Compliance Officer following Stephanie Blunt's retirement in April.

**4.0 PLANNING ENFORCEMENT PERFORMANCE AND RESOLUTION**

- 4.1 The team are currently investigating approx. 130 cases, which is consistently with caseload levels over the last 12 months. During the period of April – July 2025, 80 investigations have been investigated, resolved and closed.

- 4.2 Quarterly data on planning enforcement data investigations and actions are published on the Council website and available via this link: [Planning enforcement | North Herts Council](#)

## **5.0 S106 and MONITORING PLANNING CONDITIONS**

- 5.1 The S106 Monitoring and Compliance Officer maintains a schedule of all the S106 financial contributions held, and processes are introduced to include the process for confirmation of approval of details/confirmation development in accordance with conditions applications.
- 5.2 Work is ongoing to update the information on the Council website, which is to include links to supplementary documents and guidance. The Quarterly Reporting of S106 contributions and receipts, and the Annual Infrastructure Funding Statement are now published on the respective pages on the Council website. [Planning obligations \(section 106 agreements\) | North Herts Council](#)
- 5.3 As part of the Council's S106 monitoring and reporting, works are currently in place to develop a toolkit that will support delivery. Collaborations with Planning Policy, Development Management, Strategic Sites, Legal Services and Finance are aimed to set out and streamline the end-to-end processes that facilitate effective and accurate S106 monitoring, invoicing, receipts, allocations, spends, and reporting.
- 5.4 In bringing several different processes and workstreams together, Officers will explore opportunities for public-facing information and insight that can support Councillors, Parish councils, community groups and members of the public to access, understand and benefit from developer contributions across the district.

## **6.0 NEXT STEPS**

To note this report

## **7.0 CONTACT OFFICER**

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