

REPORT TO:

Planning Committee June 2023

LEAD OFFICER:

Joint Director of Planning and Economic Development

Compliance Report

Executive Summary

1. On 31st May 2023 there were 145 open cases in South Cambridgeshire, compared with 139 cases compared to the month beforehand.
2. Details of all compliance investigations are sent electronically to members on a weekly basis identifying opened and closed cases in their respective areas along with case reference numbers, location, case officer and nature of problem reported.
3. Statistical data is contained in Appendices 1 and 2 attached to this report.
4. Data relates to the end of May statistical information as June information was not available in full at the time of the report.

Updates to Service Delivery

The Planning Compliance Team is part of the Development Management service of the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service.

The service has interviewed for the post of Planning Compliance Officer or Senior Planning Compliance Officer and an offer has been made to a candidate following those interviews. The applicant has accepted, and a start date is awaited.

Neil Langley, Senior Planning Compliance Officer has left the Council and that post is currently being recruited to.

Work has finished on automatic acknowledgement to be sent to complainants when a new case is raised on the system, the acknowledgement includes the case officer name, reference number of the case and the direct email address of the case officer. The system is now working where a complainant has provided a valid email address for a acknowledgement to be sent to.

Following a question on reporting compliance complaints using the webform at the April 2023 committee, I have raised the matter of including advice on the compliance pages of the website to include information about persons who wish to remain anonymous, how they can contact their elected Ward Member or Parish Council to raise a complaint on their behalf, along with information as to how they find the contact details of ward Members. These amendments as well as information about acknowledgement for compliance referrals should be live on the website by week commencing 19 June.

Since 1 January 2023 the compliance team have received 376 enforcement referrals (South Cambridgeshire and Cambridge City), 216 of those were made by e-form.

Since 1 January 2023 the Compliance team have closed 274 cases (South Cambridgeshire and Cambridge City).

Updates on significant cases

Should Members wish for specific updates on cases they have involvement in, or have been made aware of then please feel free to contact the Principal Planning Compliance Manager who will be able to update you or advise you of the case officer and request that the officer contacts you.

Background Papers

Planning Enforcement Register.

Statistical Analysis of Uniform Planning Enforcement Software Program.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Compliance Cases Received and Closed.

Appendix 2: Notices Served.

Report Author:

Chris Braybrooke – Principal Planning Compliance Manager Date: 31/05/2023