

Report to	Planning Committee
Date	11 December 2025
By	Director of Planning
Title of Report	Enforcement Update
Purpose of Report	To update SDNPA Members on planning enforcement workload statistics including notices served

Note

Recommendation: The Committee is recommended to

I. To note the update on enforcement action.

I. Overview

- I.1 The SDNPA planning enforcement team investigates alleged breaches of planning control within the recovered areas of the National Park: Adur & Worthing, Arun, Brighton & Hove, Mid-Sussex, Wealden and Horsham. The team also investigate any alleged breaches where the SDNPA “called-in” any original planning application post-October 2017 or any other investigations that we wish to “call-in”, plus Condition Monitoring and any breaches relating to Minerals & Waste for the entirety of the Park. We also monitor the host authorities’ response to investigating enforcement for the non-recovered areas (Chichester, East Hampshire, Lewes & Winchester).
- I.2 The purpose of this report is to highlight the work of the Planning Enforcement Team. The team currently comprises temporary Senior Enforcement Officer (Rob Campbell) (covering long-term sick leave), Planning Enforcement Officers (Alan Hiron & Emma Goodwin), and Monitoring & Minerals and Waste Compliance Officer (Jess Perry-Mason). The yearly figures in the table below run from the start of April each year. The most recent figures were taken on 20 November 2025.
- I.3 We last reported these matters to the Committee on 10 July 2025.
- I.4 In the past year (April 25 to date) we received 105 enforcement complaints. 45 remain open from this period waiting on planning or appeal decisions or require further negotiation. 86 complaints thus far were closed. Of these 86, 48 (52%) were found not to be breaches of Planning or not expedient to pursue further action.
- I.5 12 of the closed reports resulted in compliance being sought and achieved. 19 of the reports were either Permitted Development (PD) or the breaches were resolved by the successful submission of Planning Applications, bringing in associated planning fees. The remaining open cases are waiting for planning decisions or some other resolution through negotiation or could be subject to appeals.

- 1.6 In the current year since our last report (June 2025 to date) we have served nil Enforcement Notices. A number of other previously issued enforcement notices are subject to appeal decisions or are awaiting compliance dates in the future.
- 1.7 In terms of action undertaken on our behalf by host authorities, Chichester District Council (CDC) successfully obtained a full injunction at the High Court on 9 September 2025 related to the unauthorised works at Blind Lane, Lurgashall. The injunction ensured that the use of the land for the stationing of caravans for human habitation must cease, the caravans and structures must be removed and the land restored to its original form. Costs were also awarded to the authorities. The compliance date was 20 October 2025 and to date full land restoration has not taken place. CDC officers are starting further proceedings to enforce the terms of the injunction.
- 1.8 The data in the tables below report on our performance with comparative figures from the host authorities, as requested at the last Committee.
2. **SDNPA Enforcement Team Figures.** *reflects new data-coding by Technical Team. (See Appendix I).

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Appendices: I. SDNPA Enforcement Team Figures
SDNPA Consultees: Director of Planning; Legal Services