

Report to	<b>Planning Committee</b>
Date	<b>10 July 2025</b>
By	<b>Director of Planning</b>
Title to Report	<b>Enforcement Update</b>
Purpose of Report	<b>To update SDNPA Members on planning enforcement workload statistics including notices served</b>

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**Recommendation: To note the update on enforcement action**

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## **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, Eastbourne, Mid-Sussex, Wealden. (Horsham as from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024). 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 (Sam Whitehouse). The yearly figures in the table below run from the start of April each year. The most recent figures were taken on 13 June 2025.
- I.3 We last reported these matters to the Committee on 14 November 2024.
- I.4 In the past year (April 24 to March 25) we received 137 enforcement complaints. 26 remain open from this period waiting on planning or appeal decisions or require further negotiation. 111 complaints received that year were closed. Of these 111, 86 (77%) were found not to be breaches of Planning or not expedient to pursue further action.
- I.5 The 14 of the remaining 26 reports resulted in compliance being sought and achieved. 11 of the remaining 26 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.
- I.6 In the last year (2024/2025) we have served **THREE** Enforcement Notices and have

successfully prosecuted one site for non-compliance of an Enforcement Notice with fines and costs of £4,396. Since 1 April 2025 three Notices have been served; (one Breach of Condition Notice, one Hedge Replacement Notice, and one Tree Replacement Notice is due to be served shortly). A number of other previously issued enforcement notices are subject to appeal decisions or are awaiting compliance dates in the future.

**2. SDNPA Enforcement Team Figures.** \*reflects new data-coding by Technical Team.

SDNPA	2022/23*	2023/24 *	2024/25 *	2025/26 (so far)
Cases Received	182	118	137	32
Cases Closed:	<b>181</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>22</b>
• Compliance	26	15	14	1
• Not Expedient to Pursue/NFA	44	29	8	2
• No Breach	92	59	78	17
• Retrospective Application Approved	19	20	11	2
Enforcement and LB Notices	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>
• Compliance	1	0	0	0
• Still Within Compliance Timeframe	1	1	0	0
• Appealed EN with PINS	1	0	1	0
• Considering Prosecution	0	0	0	0
• Prosecution Due to Non-Compliance	0	0	1	0
Stop Notices (excluding Temporary Stop Notices)	1	0	0	0
Breach of Condition Notices	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
• Compliance	0	0	0	0

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Still Within Compliance Timeframe</li> <li>• Prosecution</li> </ul>	0	0	0	1
	0	0	0	0
S215 Untidy Land Notices	1	1	0	0
Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) and Hedge Replacement Notices	1	0	0	2
Article 4 Directions	0	1	0	0

### 3. Total Authority Figures (including Host Authorities)

All Authorities	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26 (so far)
Cases Received	608	544	446	108
Cases Closed	674	568	518	37

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Appendices: None

SDNPA Consultees: Director of Planning, Legal Services

