

Report to	Planning Applications Committee 7 August, 2014	Item 7
Report of	Head of Planning Services	
Subject	Performance of the Planning Enforcement Service, Apr - Jun, 2014 (Quarter 1, 2014-15)	

Purpose

To report the performance of the planning service to members of the committee.

Recommendations

That the report be noted.

Financial Consequences

The financial consequences of this report are none.

Strategic Priority and Outcome/Service Priorities

The report helps to meet the strategic priority “Strong and prosperous city – working to improve quality of life for residents, visitors and those who work in the city now and in the future”.

Contact Officers

Graham Nelson, Head of Planning Services	01603 212530
Ian Whittaker, Planning Development Manager	01603 212528
Michael Stephenson, Public Protection Manager	01603 212283

Background Documents

None.

Report

Background

1. During 2013 members of the planning applications committee expressed a desire to see information relating to enforcement cases that had previously been referred to the Committee and where enforcement action had been recommended. This is the second report produced.
2. The day to day work of planning enforcement is undertaken by officers within public protection and who deliver an integrated enforcement role and covers other related areas such as noise, contamination etc.

Performance of the planning enforcement service

3. Table 1 of the appendix provides a summary of the key data showing the numbers of cases received and being investigated, together with data on the formal actions instigated.
4. Table 2 identifies the current status of all the cases that have previously been referred to Planning Applications Committee since 1st April, 2014. The intention will be to keep members abreast of what has actually happened in relation to the case where they have agreed to take action. Please note that it is not a comprehensive summary of all cases where action is being undertaken – and therefore the data in table 2 does not match table 1.
5. There are currently 194 (179) pending cases. This is a large number but is substantially lower than it was some two years ago.

Table 1
Planning enforcement – key data

	2012-13				2013-14				2014-15			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
No. of new cases received	123	104	108	64	91	101	72	107	70			
No. of cases closed down*	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	139	74	54	79	64			
Formal action instigated**	5	15	3	13	11	6	11	11	0			

n/a - data not available

*No. of cases closed down includes a variety of outcomes such as the issue being not development, of such minor scale and causing no harm that it is not expedient to pursue further, resolved by removal of the offending structure or cessation of use or a planning application being submitted and agreed.

** Formal action includes enforcement notices, breach of condition notices, prosecutions, stop notices, cautions, fixed penalty notices etc

Table 2
Enforcement action previously agreed by Committee after 1st April, 2013.

Case no.	Address	Development	Date referred to Committee	Current status	Actions completed*
13/00080/CONSRV/ENF	33 Grosvenor Road	Replacement windows (Art. 4)	25 July, 2013	Enforcement Notice is currently subject to an appeal, awaiting outcome.	No
13/00068/EXTEN/ENF	268 Heigham Street	Unauthorised development - (shipping container on land)	7 November, 2013	Notice served and time period has expired for compliance. Officers are awaiting a court date	No
EH12/8433	64-66 Westwick Street	Unauthorised development – (conservatory fronting the river)		Notice served and appealed, appeal was dismissed, the notice has not been complied with. Officers are awaiting a court date	No
Planning ref 13/01484/A	Sweet Briar Rd	Hoarding	6 March, 2014	Letter sent to the Head of City Development Services requesting removal of the sign given its location on council owned land. One sign removed others pending	No
Planning ref 13/01982/F	463-503 Sprowston Rd	Aldi foodstore fire escape steps	6 March, 2014	Aldi advising of need to work with local access groups, a meeting is being set up mid May with stakeholders to discuss the matter. Breach of condition notice to be issued pending outcome of this meeting.	No
Planning ref 13/02087/VC and 13/02088/VC	Football ground area	River bank, landscaping, mooring points, roads, street trees	6 March, 2014	Various compliance dates between August 2014 and August 2017	No
13/01540/VC	King Street	Read Mills – moorings on river bank	7 May 2014	Appeal lodged against refusal, the outcome should be awaited before further action is taken.	No

*If the actions have been concluded a “yes” indicates that the item will be deleted from the next quarterly review. Items with ongoing actions will continue to be reported.