MEMBER'S WRITTEN QUESTION



Name of Member submitting the question: Councillor Robin Stuchbury

Date received by Democratic Services: 28 November 2016 (for Council meeting on 7 December 2016)

To the Cabinet Member for: Growth Strategy (Councillor Mrs Paternoster)

Question:

- 1. Can I have the figures of how many cases of enforcement have been reported to AVDC within Buckingham (North, South, and the part of Luffield Abbey within the parish boundary) since 2014?
- 2. How many of these cases went forward to an enforcement action carried out by the council?
- 3. How many actions were complied with, and how many ignored by the householder or business and subsequently closed "not worth the effort to pursue"?

Response:

"Members are sent on a monthly basis a bulletin that sets out the enforcement cases received that month and also those that have been closed together with the reason for closure.

In response to the questions posed by Councillor Stuchbury that information has been collated for Buckingham North and South Wards for the period 1 January 2014 to 1 November 2016.

The number of enforcement cases received	105
Number of cases closed	82
Cases were closed for the following reasons:	
No breach of planning control (including permitted development)	32
The voluntary cessation or removal of the breach	17
Planning permission was subsequently granted	6
Formal notice served	2
Other, for example referred to estates, highways	9
Not expedient to take further action	16

In these last cases the conclusion was reached that the use/works required permission, but that if sought it would be granted unconditionally. In these cases we will invite an application, but will close our case and not actively chase the submission of the application. The context is that we do not have legal powers to require the submission of an application per

se, and government advice is that we should not take enforcement action solely to regularise a development, which is otherwise acceptable. Accordingly, in these cases it would not serve a useful purpose or a good use of our resources to actively chase the submission of an application. However, we know that in some of these cases the developer will seek to regularise the position either at the time or later when they seek to market the property concerned."

Signed: Councillor Mrs Paternoster Date: 05/12/2016

Written questions:

- must be submitted to the Democratic Services Manager
- will be replied to within 10 working days
- will be published on the last Friday of each month