

All Parish, Town and Community Councils

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Your Ref
IWC Ref Planning Enforcement

Contact Ollie Boulter
Date 6 October 2023

Dear all,

Isle of Wight Council Planning Enforcement

We are writing to take the opportunity to highlight the opportunities for parish, town and community councils for funding further Planning Enforcement capacity in 2024/5 and beyond.

As you'll be aware our Planning Enforcement Strategy (May 2023) sets out our approach towards enforcement, recognising our limited capacity.

By providing financial support parish, town and community councils can increase our capacity, and by doing so have control over how that increased capacity is used and how it can target action on locally important priorities.

We have successfully run this approach with Newport and Carisbrooke Community Council since 1 April 2023. Alongside all the informal interactions between the council and Enforcement Officer dedicated to their area, as part of the formal arrangement we provide regular reports. Please see attached the report covering the first three-month period with our relationship with the Community Council.

The evidence is clear that with greater capacity the Planning Enforcement Team can do more and be proactive on the issues and sites that mean the most to you and your community. Without that capacity we will still react to any enforcement complaints that we receive, but these will be dealt with in a hierarchy based on Island-wide enforcement priorities and within the available capacity.

Reflecting on Newport and Carisbrooke Community Council's experience of the trial, Cllr Julie Jones-Evans said

"I'm really pleased that our Community Council was prepared to take the plunge and fund capacity within the Isle of Wight Council's Planning Enforcement Team. We're now six

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months in and I've never seen so much scaffolding in the town centre! This funding is making a clear and visible difference to our community, and I think the regular updates and reports from 'our' enforcement officer are providing the evidence to demonstrate to our residents that is a really positive way of using our precept".

We recognise there is no one-size fits all approach to this and different areas will have different needs and available budget. There could be instances where councils and funding is pooled to make it viable and meaningful. To help you think about what this could look like we've enclosed the Council's Enforcement Strategy, the charging schedule and the Q1 report to N&CCC.

To explore what this could look like for your council and community, and the benefits it could bring, please do contact us.

We look forward to working with you,

Ollie

Ollie Boulter
Strategic Manager for Planning
& Infrastructure Delivery

Paul

Cllr Paul Fuller
Cabinet Member for
Planning

Please find attached the following:

- Enforcement Strategy
- Fee sheet
- N&CCC Q1 report

This information is available in Braille, large print, tape and community languages from the above offices and Typetalk calls are welcome.

Costs of funding additional Planning Enforcement capacity

	Enforcement Officer	Senior Enforcement Officer	Principal Enforcement Officer
1 day a week per year (52 weeks)	£7,884.80p	£8,901.20p	£9,786.80p
2 days a week per year (52 weeks)	£15,769.60p	£17,802.40p	£19,673.60p
3 days a week per year (52 weeks)	£23,654.40p	£26,703.60p	£29,360.40p
4 days a week per year (52 weeks)	£31,539.20p	£35,604.80p	£39,147.20p
5 days a week per year (52 weeks)	£39,424.00p	£44,506.00p	£48,934.00p

These costs are based on the 23/24 pay grades for Council staff and have been calculated using below the line costs (such as National Insurance contributions and pension).