

To Town and parish Councils in Teignbridge Good morning,

As part of the work of the overview and scrutiny committees, Teignbridge District Council has set up a group to look at the planning enforcement function and we are inviting town and parish councils to offer feedback and suggestions that might improve the service. Our group is looking at enforcement only, rather than the wider planning function and we would like to focus on the effectiveness of the current enforcement processes and powers. The recommendations of the group are unlikely to refer to individual cases.

The Dartmoor national Park has a separate planning function. We will be able to pass on recommendations, but the National park does not fall directly within this work.

Effective enforcement is important as a means of maintaining public confidence in the planning system. Enforcement action is discretionary, and local planning authorities should act proportionately in responding to suspected breaches of planning control. Enforcement isn't a punishment and taking no action is sometimes the appropriate route. There has also been an increase in 'permitted development rights' which means more types of development do not require consent. These factors can make it seem like the service is not fair, robust or credible so we are also interested in ways to improve the perception of the service, where this may be in part due to misunderstanding of the legal framework, or ultimate aims

We will also be reviewing the Teignbridge Planning Enforcement Policy last updated in 2017

https://www.teignbridge.gov.uk/media/1590/enforcement_policy-updated-30-june-2017.pdf

The Government guidelines on enforcement are also available

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ensuring-effective-enforcement>)

We would like to hear the views of councils, clerks or councillors, and we will be reviewing responses on 19 April.

Please reply to ...

andrew.swain@teignbridge.gov.uk

Thank you

Councillor Andy Swain

Chair of Planning Enforcement Task and Finish Group

Sarah Selway

Dear Town/Parish Clerk

Following my email below I have received queries as to the deadline due to meetings not being held before this time . The Group will be happy to accept submissions after the deadline. If you could email the Group Chair Cllr Andrew Swain Andrew.Swain@Teignbridge.gov.uk as soon as you can after your meeting with any comments.

Thanks

Sarah Selway
Democratic Service Team Leader & Deputy Monitoring Officer