

## The Planning Inspectorate

### QUESTIONNAIRE (s174) ENFORCEMENT NOTICE (Online Version)

You must ensure that a copy of the completed questionnaire, together with any enclosures, is sent to the appellant/agent. Any documents which you have indicated as 'To follow' should also be sent to the case officer by the date given in the start letter.

If notification or consultation under an Act, Order or Departmental Circular would have been necessary before granting permission and has not yet taken place, please inform the appropriate bodies of the appeal now and ask for any comments to be sent direct to us within 6 weeks of the 'starting date'.

Appeal Reference

APP/C3430/C/23/3324573

Appeal By

MR LEE POUNTAIN

Site Address

Meadow View Paradise Lane  
Slade Heath  
Staffordshire  
WV10 7NZ

#### PART 1

1.a. Do you agree to the written representation procedure? Yes  No

Note: If the written procedure is agreed, the Inspector will visit the site unaccompanied by either party unless the relevant part of the site cannot be seen from a road or other public land, or it is essential for the Inspector to enter the site to check measurements or other relevant facts.

2.a. If the written procedure is agreed, can the relevant part of the appeal site be seen from a road or other public land? Yes  No

2.b. Is it essential for the Inspector to enter the site to check measurements or other relevant facts? Yes  No

Entry required to examine the property

2.c. Are there any known health and safety issues that would affect the conduct of the site inspection? Yes  No

Please describe:

2.d. Would the Inspector have to go onto any privately owned adjoining land as well as the appeal site itself? Yes  No

#### PART 2

3. Are there any related appeals currently before the Secretary of State, e.g. under s.78, 174 or 195 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, s20 or 39 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 or orders under s102 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990? If yes please provide reference number(s) Yes  No

4.a. Has the local planning authority received the correct fee payable for the deemed planning application/ground (a) to be considered? Yes  No

5.a. Is the appeal site within a conservation area? Yes  No

5.b. Is the appeal site adjacent to a conservation area? Yes  No

### PART 3

6.a. Does the notice relate to building, engineering, mining or other operations? Yes  No

6.b. Is the area of the alleged breach different from the above? Yes  No

6.c. Does the alleged breach create any floor space? Yes  No

If YES, please state the amount of gross floor space created, in square metres.

151 sq metre(s)

Does the enforcement notice relate to a change of use of land to use for:

7.a. the disposal of refuse or waste materials? Yes  No

7.b. the deposit of materials remaining after mineral extraction? Yes  No

7.c. the storage of minerals in the open? Yes  No

8. If the enforcement notice relates to the erection of a building or buildings, is it accepted that their use is for purposes of agriculture on land used for agricultural purposes (not necessarily an agricultural unit as defined in the Agriculture Act (1947))? Yes  No

9. Does the enforcement notice relate to the erection/change of use of a building which is a single private dwellinghouse, as defined in Regulation 2(1) of the Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications, Deemed Applications, Requests and Site Visits) (England) Regulations 2012? Yes  No

### PART 4

10. Has the local planning authority made a Local Development Order under sections 61A to 61C of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as inserted by section 40 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004) in relation to the application site? Yes  No

11. Has any planning permission been granted previously in respect of the development? Yes  No

12. Has the appellant applied for planning permission and paid the appropriate fee for the same development as in the enforcement notice? Yes  No

13. Has a planning contravention notice been served? Yes  No

If YES, please send a copy of the Planning Contravention Notice and the reply

A copy of the PCN and the reply:

see 'Questionnaire Documents' section

14.a. the appeal site is within 67 METRES OF A TRUNK ROAD? Yes  No

14.b. the appeal site is CROWN LAND (as defined in s293 of the Act)? Yes  No

14.c. a STOP NOTICE has been served in addition to the enforcement notice? Yes  No

14.d. the appeal site is in or adjacent to or likely to affect a SSSI? Yes  No

14.e. any protected species are likely to be affected by the alleged development? Yes  No

14.f. the appeal site is in a Green Belt or AONB? Yes  No

If YES, please state which one (name).

West Midlands Green Belt			
14.g. any part of the site is subject to a Tree Preservation Order?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14.h. the appeal site is within 400m of an area of underground or surface mineral interest?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14.i. the appeal site is within 250m of a waste landfill site?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14.j. does the development affect the setting of a listed building or ancient monument?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14.k. has importation of waste materials been involved in the development?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14.l. does the appeal involve persons claiming gypsy/traveller status, whether or not this is accepted by the planning authority?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

PART 5			
16.a. Is the appeal site subject to an ARTICLE 4 Direction?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
17. Have any development rights been restricted by means of a planning condition?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
18. Does the development relate to operational development for a disabled person, as defined by s29 of the National Assistance Act 1948?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
19. Will any consultation be carried out on the possibility of planning permission being granted if the appeal is confirmed as valid?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Environmental Impact Assessment - Schedule 1			
20.a. Is the alleged development within Schedule 1 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Environmental Impact Assessment - Schedule 2			
20.b.i. Is the development Schedule 2 development as described in Column 1, Schedule 2 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Environmental Impact Assessment - Environmental Statement (ES)			
20.e. Has the appellant supplied an environmental statement?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

PART 6	
21.a. a copy of the letter with which you notified people about the appeal. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> see 'Questionnaire Documents' section	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
21.b. a list of the people you notified and the deadline you gave for their comments to be sent to us. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> see 'Questionnaire Documents' section	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
the deadline you gave for their comments to be sent to us.	<input type="text" value="08/09/2023"/>
21.c. the planning officer's report to committee or delegated report and any other relevant document/minutes.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

see 'Questionnaire Documents' section

21.d. where ground (a) (s174) has been pleaded and any fee required has been paid, a comprehensive list of conditions which you consider should be imposed if planning permission is granted. You need not attach this now, but it should reach us within 6 weeks of the starting date. The list must be submitted separately from your appeal statement.

#### Policies/Planning Guidance

22.a. extracts from any relevant statutory development plan policies (even if you intend to rely more heavily on the emerging plan). You must include the front page, the title and date of approval/adoption, and the status of the plan. Copies of the policies should include the relevant supporting text.

List of policies

Core policies 1,2,3,4, GB1, EQ 1,2,4,9 and 11

see 'Questionnaire Documents' section

22.b. extracts of any relevant policies which have been 'saved' by way of a Direction.

22.c. extracts from any supplementary planning guidance, that you consider necessary, together with its status, whether it was the subject of public consultation and consequent modification, whether it was formally adopted, and if so when.

22.d. extracts from any supplementary planning document that you consider necessary, together with the date of its adoption. In the case of emerging documents, please state what stage they have reached.

22.e. if any Development Plan Document (DPD) or Neighbourhood Plan relevant to this appeal has been examined and found sound/met the basic conditions and passed a referendum, the date the DPD or Neighbourhood Plan is likely to be adopted and, if you consider this date will be before the Inspector's decision on this appeal is issued, an explanation of the Council's policy position in respect of this appeal upon its adoption. You should also include an explanation of the status of existing policies and plans, as they relate to this appeal, upon adoption and which (if any) will be superseded;

22.f. if any DPD or Neighbourhood Plan relevant to this appeal has been submitted for examination, or in the case of a Neighbourhood Plan has been examined and is awaiting a referendum, an explanation of any substantive changes in the progress of the emerging plan, and their relevance to this appeal if it is considered that the plan will not be adopted before the Inspector's decision on this appeal is issued;

22.g. your Authority's CIL charging schedule is being/has been examined;

22.h. your Authority's CIL charging schedule has been/is likely to be adopted.

22.i. any other relevant information or correspondence you consider we should know about.

#### PART 7

23. A true copy of the Enforcement Notice

see 'Questionnaire Documents' section

24. The Enforcement Notice Plan (if applicable)

see 'Questionnaire Documents' section

25. A list of those served with the Notice

see 'Questionnaire Documents' section

26. Do you wish to attach your statement of case?

Yes  No



#### LPA Details

I certify that a copy of this appeal questionnaire and any enclosures will be sent to the appellant or agent today.



LPA's reference

21/00260/UNDEV

Completed by

Mark Bray

On behalf of

South Staffordshire District Council

Please provide the details of the officer we can contact for this appeal, if different from the Planning Inspectorate's usual contact for this type of appeal.

Name

Salindra Shakespeare

Phone no (including dialling code)

01902696274

Email

Appeals@sstaffs.gov.uk

Please advise the case officer of any changes in circumstances occurring after the return of the questionnaire.

QUESTIONNAIRE DOCUMENTS

Appeal Reference	APP/C3430/C/23/3324573
Appeal By	MR LEE POUNTAIN
Site Address	Meadow View Paradise Lane Slade Heath Staffordshire WV10 7NZ

The documents listed below were uploaded with this form:

- Relates to Section: PART 4  
 Document Description: 13. A copy of the Planning Contravention Notice (PCN) and the reply.  
 File name: 7 Planning Contravention Notice.pdf
- Relates to Section: PART 6  
 Document Description: 21.a. A copy of the letter with which you notified people about the appeal.  
 File name: 9 Appeal notice.pdf
- Relates to Section: PART 6  
 Document Description: 21.b. A list of the people you notified and the deadline you gave for their comments to be sent to us.  
 File name: 8 LOIP - Brewood and Coven.pdf
- Relates to Section: PART 6  
 Document Description: 21.c. the planning officer's report to committee or delegated report and any other relevant document/minutes.  
 File name: 2 Officer report.pdf
- Relates to Section: PART 6  
 Document Description: 22.a. Extracts from any statutory development plan policy including the front page, title and date of approval/adoption and status.  
 File name: 3 Core strategy front page.pdf  
 File name: 3a Policies.pdf
- Relates to Section: PART 7  
 Document Description: 23. A true copy of the Enforcement Notice.  
 File name: 4 Enforcement Notice.pdf
- Relates to Section: PART 7  
 Document Description: 24. The Enforcement Notice Plan.  
 File name: 5 Enforcement Notice plan.pdf
- Relates to Section: PART 7  
 Document Description: 25. A list of those served with the Notice.  
 File name: 6 List of those served with notice.pdf

Completed by	Not Set
Date	04/08/2023 11:41:02
LPA	South Staffordshire District Council



## Authorisation for Enforcement Action

THE AUTHORITY TO AUTHORISE THE ACTIONS PROPOSED IS DELEGATED TO THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND BUSINESS GROWTH, BY VIRTUE OF PART 3 OF THE CONSTITUTION.

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**ENFORCEMENT REFERENCE:** 21/00260/UNDEV

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**ADDRESS:** Land at Meadow View Paradise Lane Slade Heath Staffordshire WV10 7NZ

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### **BREACH OF PLANNING CONTROL:**

Without planning permission, the construction of a brick built two storey building (“the Building”) for the purposes of an independent residential dwelling house in the approximate position shaded blue of the Plan.

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### **POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:**

#### **National Planning Policy Framework**

- 5. Delivering a sufficient supply of homes
- 12. Achieving well designed places
- 13. Protecting Green Belt land
- 15. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment

#### **Adopted Core Strategy**

##### Core Policy 1: The Spatial Strategy for South Staffordshire

GB1: Development in the Green Belt

##### Core Policy 2: Protecting and Enhancing the Natural and Historic Environment

EQ1: Protecting, Enhancing and Expanding Natural Assets

EQ2: Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation

EQ4: Protecting and Enhancing the Character and Appearance of the Landscape

##### Core Policy 3: Sustainable Development and Climate Change

EQ9: Protecting Residential Amenity

##### Core Policy 4: Promoting High Quality Design

EQ11: Wider Design Considerations

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### **RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY:**

10/00360/LUP – Certificate of Lawful use for bungalow and garage – Certificate granted 2010

13/00758/OUT – Application for outline permission for the erection of a detached dwelling and garage – Permission Granted 2013

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16/00711/REM – Application for approval of reserved matters for the erection of a detached dwelling and garage – Permission granted 2016

20/00859/FUL – Application for Extensions and porch to front elevation, new brick skin provided around building and redesign of existing roof to include dormers – Permission granted 2021

21/00304/LHSHLD – Application for kitchen extension to rear – Permission granted 2021

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#### **CASE SUMMARY:**

On the 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021, the Council received a complaint relating to the erection of a large outbuilding at the rear of a large residential dwelling house called Meadow View situated in significantly sized gardens.

As the Building progressed photographs were sent to the Council of what appeared to be a two-storey detached dwelling house with three dormer windows to the front and two to the rear.

The landowner was contacted by letter and on September 2021 was spoken to by a Council officer. He informed the officer that he would be using the Building to live in with his family whilst the main dwelling house on the Land was renovated which he estimated would take a period of approximately two years.

On 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021, the owner completed a Planning Contravention Notice, (PCN) in which he confirmed that the Building had been erected for residential use to live in with his family whilst the main dwelling house was undergoing renovation. He stated on the PCN, that the property was fully equipped for residential use by confirming that it was equipped with a toilet, bath and shower facilities, cooking facilities and clothes washing facilities. He stated once he had ceased the residential use of the Building he intended to turn it into a sensory room for his disable son.

On 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022, the owner was spoken to in order to arrange a site visit to inspect the property.

On 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022, the owner advised the Council by e-mail that a relative was undergoing a major operation and advised that he would be in touch in the New Year to arrange an appointment for officers to visit.

On 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023, a Council officer contacted Mr Pountain to arrange a visit. Mr Pountain stated he was no longer amenable to Council officers carrying out a visit and interfering with his personal life and that he would not allow access to the property. He was asked if he was still residing in the property with his family, however he refused to provide any further information and stated he was not going to answer any further questions about his personal life or give any further information about the property.

On 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023, Council officers conducted a site visit where they found the completed two-storey detached dwelling house. The Building had blinds up at the windows, a TV aerial and satellite dish erected upon it and to all intents and purposes, it presented as an entirely independent residential dwelling.

On 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023, further e-mail correspondence with the owner confirmed the ongoing use of the Building as a temporary residential dwelling for use for the owner, his wife and four children whilst the main dwelling was undergoing renovation and that he believed planning permission was not required for it.

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#### **EXPEDIENCY OF ENFORCEMENT ACTION:**

Planning Enforcement action is a discretionary power which may be exercised where there has been a breach of planning control which affects public amenity or otherwise affects land or buildings meriting protection in the public interest. This case relates to inappropriate development within the Green Belt

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TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ATTACHED NOTICE



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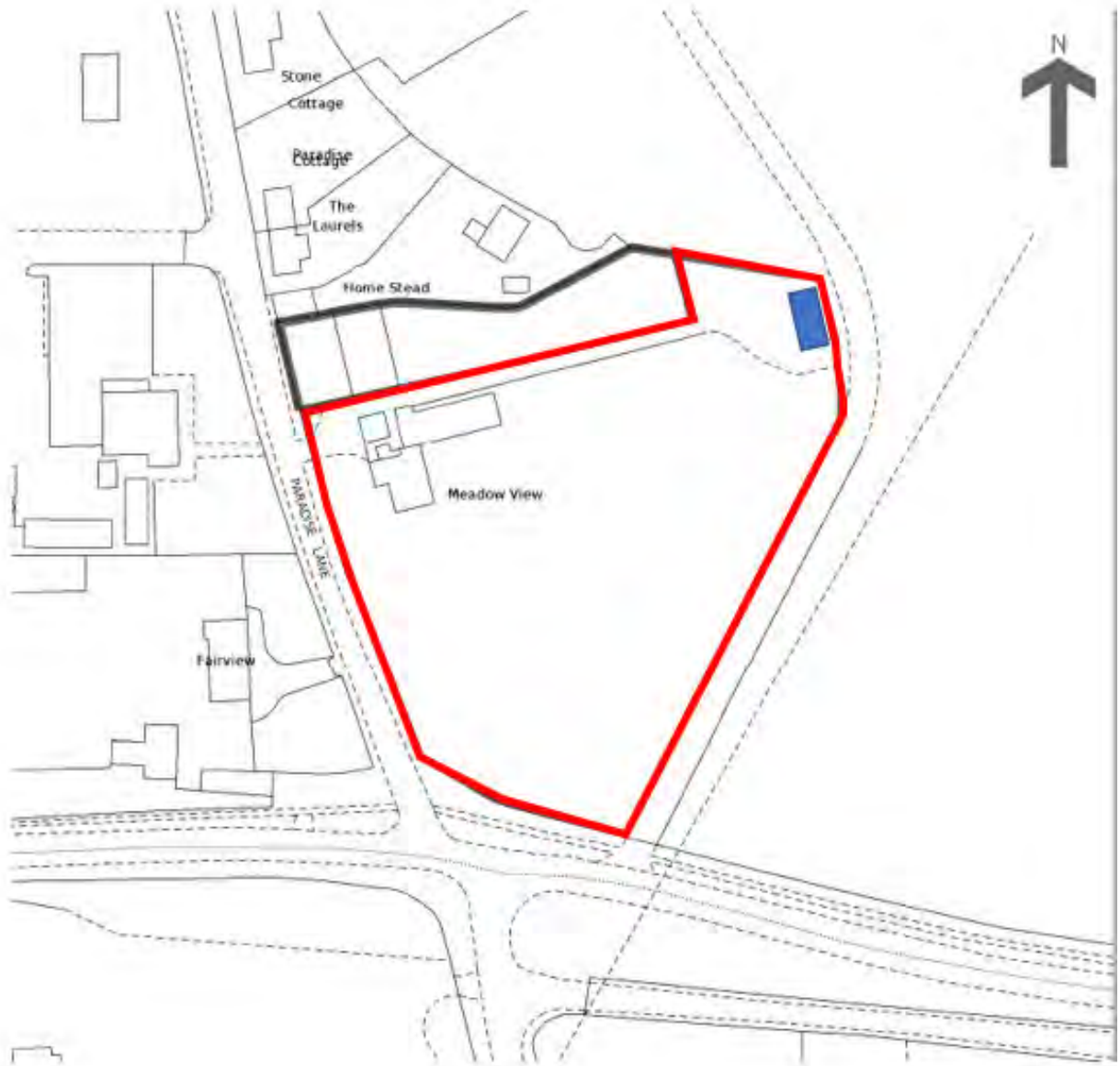
consisting of a two-storey residential dwelling house that has a significant impact on the Green Belt and a neighbouring property.

Given landowners position that the Building does not require planning permission, the Council is left with little alternative but to proceed with formal enforcement action to secure the removal of the building and removal of the harm caused to the Green Belt. However a long compliance date of six months has been given to allow the landowner to complete the renovation of the main dwelling house before his family is required to cease the use of the Building, thus ensuring that they can be accommodated before the Building has to be removed from the Land.

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Meadow View Paradise Lane Slade Heath Staffordshire WV10 7NZ

Red Line Plan



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TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ATTACHED NOTICE

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**CASE OFFICER DECLARATION:**

I hereby declare that I have adhered to the Council's Planning Enforcement Policy & Procedures, and that based on the evidence gathered during my investigation I recommend the service of the notice attached to this form, including, where relevant, the amendments made by the named Officers below.

I have given consideration to [South Staffordshire Council's Planning Policies](#), the [National Planning Policy Framework](#), and to the Government's [Enforcement and post-permission matters](#) guidance during the course of my investigation and in the construction of the attached notice, ensuring that it is a proportionate and reasonable response to the breach of planning control.

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**CASE OFFICER:** Mark Bray  
**POSITION:** Planning Enforcement Consultant  
**DATE:** 24<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**Signed:**



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**LINE MANAGER COMMENTS, INSERTIONS OR REVISIONS:** No amendments made.

**DECLARATION:**

I hereby declare that I have reviewed the case and support the Case Officer declaration above.

Based on my review of the evidence gathered during the investigation, it is both expedient and in the public interest to serve the notice attached to this form, including, where relevant, my amendments detailed above, and those made by the other named Officers.

I have given consideration to [South Staffordshire Council's Planning Policies](#), the [National Planning Policy Framework](#), and to the Government's [Enforcement and post-permission matters](#) guidance during my review of the investigation and my amendments to the attached notice, ensuring that it is a proportionate and reasonable response to the breach of planning control.

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**NAME:** Catherine Gutteridge  
**POSITION:** Planning Enforcement Team Manager  
**DATE:** 24.03.2023

**Signed:**



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TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ATTACHED NOTICE

**DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMENTS, INSERTIONS OR REVISIONS:**

**DECLARATION:**

I hereby declare that I have reviewed the case and support the Officer declarations above.

Based on my review of the evidence gathered during the investigation, it is both expedient and in the public interest to serve the notice attached to this form, including, where relevant, my amendments detailed above, and those made by the other named Officers.

I have given consideration to [South Staffordshire Council's Planning Policies](#), the [National Planning Policy Framework](#), and to the Government's [Enforcement and post-permission matters](#) guidance during my review of the investigation and my amendments to the attached notice, ensuring that it is a proportionate and reasonable response to the breach of planning control.

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**NAME:** Lucy

Duffy

**POSITION:**

Assistant Team

Manager

**DATE:**

21/04/2023

**Signed:**



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**LEGAL SERVICES COMMENTS, INSERTIONS OR REVISIONS:**

**DECLARATION:**

I hereby declare that I have reviewed the case and support the Officer declarations above.

Based on my review of the evidence gathered during the investigation, it is both expedient and in the public interest to serve the notice attached to this form, including, where relevant, my amendments detailed above, and those made by the other named Officers.

I have given consideration to [South Staffordshire Council's Planning Policies](#), the [National Planning Policy Framework](#), and to the Government's [Enforcement and post-permission matters](#) guidance during my review of the investigation and my amendments to the attached notice, ensuring that it is a proportionate and reasonable response to the breach of planning control.

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**NAME:** Pardip Sharma

**POSITION:** Solicitor

**DATE:** 9/5/23

**Signed:** By e-mail 9/5/23

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**AUTHORISING OFFICER COMMENTS, INSERTIONS OR REVISIONS:**

**DECLARATION:**

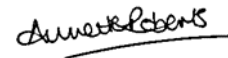
I hereby declare that I have reviewed the case and support the Officer declarations above.

Based on my review of the evidence gathered during the investigation, it is both expedient and in the public interest to serve the notice attached to this form, including, where relevant, my amendments detailed above, and those made by the other named Officers.

I have given consideration to [South Staffordshire Council's Planning Policies](#), the [National Planning Policy Framework](#), and to the Government's [Enforcement and post-permission matters](#) guidance during my review of the investigation and my amendments to the attached notice, ensuring that it is a proportionate and reasonable response to the breach of planning control.

Annette Roberts

Corporate Director Infrastructure and Business Growth



**DATE:** 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023

**Signed:**

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South Staffordshire Council

# Core Strategy

December 2012



Further information can be found at  
[www.sstaffs.gov.uk](http://www.sstaffs.gov.uk)



A Local Plan for  
South Staffordshire

# **Core Strategy Development Plan Document**

**Adopted 11<sup>th</sup> December 2012**

South Staffordshire Council

**Core Policy 1 – The Spatial Strategy for South Staffordshire**

The rural regeneration of South Staffordshire will be delivered through the implementation of the following Spatial Strategy. The principal aim will be to meet local needs, whilst recognising the constraints that impact upon the District, and support and improve infrastructure and service delivery in the District.

Throughout the District, growth will be located at the most accessible and sustainable locations in accordance with the Settlement Hierarchy set out below and the Council will work with partners to deliver the infrastructure, facilities and services required to support this growth. An integral part of the Strategy will be to protect, maintain and enhance the natural and historic environment and the local distinctiveness of the District and retain and reinforce the current settlement pattern.

In relation to the District’s existing communities and settlements, appropriate proposals which contribute to their improved sustainability, cohesion and community wellbeing, will be supported.

Development proposals will be expected to make efficient use of land and prioritise the use of Previously Developed Land (brownfield land) in sustainable locations, provided it is not of high environmental value, whilst safeguarding the character of existing residential areas.

Main Service Villages

Bilbrook, Brewood, Cheslyn Hay, Codsall, Great Wyrley, Kinver, Penkridge, Perton and Wombourne are defined as **Main Service Villages** and will be the main focus for housing growth, employment development and service provision. Village centres will be the focus for new shopping and small scale office development to maintain their vitality and viability.

Local Service Villages

Coven, Essington, Featherstone, Huntington, Pattingham, Swindon and Wheaton Aston are defined as **Local Service Villages** where limited development will be supported where it meets local needs, whilst recognising the constraints that impact upon the District. Employment development will be limited to that which meets local business and community needs and maintains the vitality and viability of these communities. Shopping and office development will be located in the village centres.

Small Service Villages

Bednall, Bobbington, Bishops Wood, Dunston, Shareshill, and Trysull are defined as **Small Service Villages** where very limited development may be acceptable for the provision of rural affordable housing where it clearly supports a local need and contributes to the sustainability of those local communities. Employment development will be limited to rural employment and diversification which meets local business and community needs.



### Other Villages and Hamlets

The villages defined as **Other Villages and Hamlets** are not identified for growth, and development will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances for the provision of rural affordable housing to meet identified local needs. New development in these locations will therefore be limited to rural affordable housing schemes provided through rural exception sites and the conversion and re-use of redundant rural buildings to appropriate uses.

### Outside the Service Villages

Outside the service villages, the objective of the Spatial Strategy is to protect the attractive rural character of the countryside where new development will be restricted to particular types of development to meet affordable housing needs, support tourism, provide for sport and recreation and support the local rural economy and rural diversification.

As part of the strategy for employment and economic development, support will continue to be given to the four existing freestanding strategic employment sites (i54, Hilton Cross, ROF Featherstone/Brinsford and Four Ashes).

### The Green Belt and Open Countryside

The South Staffordshire portion of the West Midlands Green Belt as defined on the Policies Map, will be protected from inappropriate development and proposals will be considered in the light of other local planning policies and the policy restrictions relating to Green Belt in the NPPF, however the Council will consider favourably sustainable development which accords with this Spatial Strategy.

The general extent of the Green Belt and the area defined as Open Countryside will be protected and maintained for the Plan period but some land will need to be released from the Green Belt and Open Countryside in some locations at the Main and Local Service Villages to deliver the proposed development strategy and enable the sustainable growth of these villages. A partial review of Green Belt boundaries and a review of Major Developed Sites in the Green Belt will be carried out through the Site Allocations DPD.

### Delivering the Strategy

The Spatial Strategy will be delivered through the Core Policies and Development Policies. In all cases development should not conflict with the local planning policies, particularly the environmental policies. Development should be designed to be sustainable, seek to enhance the environment, and should provide any necessary mitigating or compensatory measures to address harmful implications.

## **Explanation**

- 6.4 South Staffordshire lies on the edge of the West Midlands Conurbation close to the Major Urban Areas of the Black Country and has its own distinctive character. A key aspect of South Staffordshire's local distinctiveness is based around its ethos and philosophy of being a 'community of communities'. The settlement pattern of South Staffordshire is that of a rural area with many villages of different sizes situated within 27 parishes. There is no single dominant settlement and many of our residents rely on the services provided within towns and cities outside the District to meet some of their 'higher order' needs including hospitals, certain types of retail needs, and certain types of leisure and employment opportunities. This is in part because they are not able to meet their needs locally. Similarly, many of the people who work in and use the facilities of the District, actually live outside it.
- 6.5 The Spatial Strategy for South Staffordshire is to spread development geographically around the District based on a Settlement Hierarchy. The principal aim of the Strategy is to meet local needs whilst recognising the constraints that impact upon the District, and support the retention of existing facilities and services in villages in a sustainable way and where possible improve them. The Settlement Hierarchy classifies villages as Main Service Villages, Local Service Villages and Small Service Villages and the very small villages in the District are classified as Other Villages and Hamlets. The Settlement Hierarchy is shown on the following map.

- 7.3 South Staffordshire is comprised of a variety of landscapes, with historic landscapes, extensive areas of forest, areas of heathland, commons, rivers and water courses. Some landscape character types have suffered losses or degradation, and the District's landscape is affected by change arising from development, mineral working and agriculture. There are a number of initiatives covering part of the District that aim to achieve enhancements to the existing landscape and create valuable new habitats that can play a part in increasing biodiversity value within the District and these include the Forest of Mercia.
- 7.4 There are currently 11 sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) in the District including Motte Meadows, Kinver Edge and Highgate Common. Motte Meadows is also a National Nature Reserve and a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) designated under the Habitats Directive. There are also many other Sites of Biological Importance (SBI) across the District of various habitat types that require on-going protection and management including important areas of lowland heathland and ancient woodland. In addition, there are 5 Local Nature Reserves (LNR) in the District including Shoal Hill Common and Wom Brook Walk. The western edge of the Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) lies within the District.
- 7.5 South Staffordshire has a total of 19 conservation areas, most of them based upon historic village centres, which include canal conservation areas covering the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal, Shropshire Union Canal, and the Stourbridge Canal. There are over 850 listed buildings and structures in the District and a range of other buildings and structures of local importance. In addition, there are 23 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs).

### **Core Policy 2: Protecting and Enhancing the Natural and Historic Environment**

The Council will support development or other initiatives where they protect, conserve and enhance the District's natural and heritage assets including ecological networks internationally, nationally and locally important designations. Particular support will be given to initiatives to improve the natural environment where it is poor and increase the overall biodiversity of the District including the development of green infrastructure links and to improve the historic environment where it is identified as at risk.

Development or initiatives will generally be supported which:

- a) will not have a detrimental impact upon the interests and significance of a natural or heritage asset;
- b) are not contrary to the control of development within internationally, nationally or locally designated areas including the Green Belt and Open Countryside, Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Motte Meadows Special Area of Conservation, and contribute to the conservation and enhancement of the character of the landscape and local distinctiveness;

- c) are consistent with the sustainable management of the asset including the repair and reuse of historic buildings;
- d) protect and improve water and air quality;
- e) provide mitigation or compensatory measures to address any potential harmful implications and supporting enhancement measures.

Development proposals should be consistent with the NPPF, the Supplementary Planning Documents on the Historic Environment and Biodiversity and other local planning policies.

Development proposals should have regard to and support the actions and objectives of the Severn and Humber River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs) and also have regard to the River Severn and River Trent Catchment Flood Management Plans (CFMPs).

### **Explanation**

7.6 The Policy should be regarded as a positive policy that will support the protection and enhancement of South Staffordshire's natural and historic environment and reflects the importance attached to the assets in Strategic Objectives 3, 4 and 5. The natural and heritage assets in South Staffordshire can be identified as follows:

- The South Staffordshire portion of the West Midlands Green Belt
- The Open Countryside – its landscape character and appearance;
- The best and most versatile agricultural land;
- The character and setting of villages;
- Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB);
- The Forest of Mercia;
- Statutory and local areas of wildlife and biological importance, including a National Nature Reserve, Sites of Scientific Interest;
- Motte Meadows Special Areas of Conservation (SAC);
- Protected species and their habitats;
- Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites;
- Ancient and semi-natural woodlands and veteran trees;
- Trees, woodlands and hedgerows;
- Areas of lowland heath;
- Rivers, watercourses and their floodplains, canals and ponds;
- Buildings, structures and areas of townscape, historic and architectural value and their setting – listed buildings, conservation areas, buildings of special local interest;
- Registered parks and gardens of historic interest including historic landscape areas;
- Sites or structures of archaeological importance – Scheduled Ancient Monuments, sites shown on the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR);
- Land of open space, recreational and amenity value;
- The public rights of way network.

- 7.7 Supporting, enhancing and protecting these assets will require the maintenance of strong partnerships with key partners, such as English Heritage, Natural England and the Environment Agency. The policies in the Core Strategy will contribute to the protection and management of the Cannock Chase AONB and contribute towards the aims and objectives of the Forest of Mercia. The Core Strategy will also make a major contribution towards achieving the objectives of the Staffordshire Biodiversity Action Plan (SBAP).
- 7.8 The approach to the management and protection of the Cannock Chase AONB will be covered in a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). Further Supplementary Planning Documents will be prepared in relation to biodiversity and landscape character and linked to the relevant Core Strategy policies.

### **Key Evidence**

Sustainable Community Strategy 2008 – 2020  
South Staffordshire Council Plan –2012 - 2016  
Habitats Regulation Assessment Review of the Core Strategy 2010  
Staffordshire Biodiversity Action Plan 2001  
Staffordshire Geodiversity Action Plan 2004  
Staffordshire Ecological Records  
Tree and Woodland Strategy 2010  
Open Space Strategy 2009  
Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans 2010  
Village Design Guide SPD 2009  
Buildings of Special Local Interest  
Historic Environment Assessment 2011  
Cannock Chase AONB Management Plan 2009 - 2014  
Evidence Base relating to Cannock Chase SAC and the Appropriate Assessment of Local Authority Core Strategies 2010  
Cannock Chase Visitor Impact Mitigation Strategy 2010  
Assessment of Physical and Environmental Constraints 2009  
Planning for Landscape Change – Staffordshire County Council SPD 1996-2011  
Humber River Basin Management Plan 2009  
Severn River Basin Management Plan 2009  
River Severn Catchment Flood Management Plan 2009  
River Trent Catchment Flood Management Plan 2010  
Air Quality Updating and Screening Assessment 2009

### **Delivery and Monitoring**

Through Development Policies EQ1, EQ2 ,EQ3 and EQ4

The monitoring arrangements are set out in the Monitoring Framework in Appendix 1.

- 7.29 As a means of tackling climate change South Staffordshire must be a place where sustainable communities are created and a District where people want to live and work, now and in the future. The Council is therefore seeking to create communities which meet the diverse needs of existing and future residents, are sensitive to their environment, and contribute to a high quality of life. Communities must be safe and inclusive, well planned, built and run, and offer equality of opportunity and good services for all.

### **Core Policy 3: Sustainable Development and Climate Change**

The Council will require development to be designed to cater for the effects of climate change, making prudent use of natural resources, enabling opportunities for renewable energy and energy efficiency and helping to minimise any environmental impacts. This will be achieved by:

- a) giving preference to development on previously developed land (brownfield land) in sustainable locations, provided it is not of high environmental value; and supporting and encouraging the reuse of buildings as a sustainable option;
- b) supporting and encouraging development which facilitates sustainable modes of transport, including the transport of materials and recycling products, by requiring travel plans for developments which would have significant transport implications;
- c) ensuring that development on brownfield land affected by contamination or land instability is remediated in accordance with the NPPF;
- d) ensuring that all new development and conversion schemes, are located and designed to maximise energy efficiency, and incorporate the best environmental practice and sustainable construction techniques appropriate to the size and type of development; and minimises the consumption and extraction of minerals by making the greatest possible reuse and recycling of materials in new construction;
- e) ensuring that building design is flexible to future needs and users, and reduces energy consumption by appropriate methods, such as high standards of insulation, layout, orientation, using natural lighting and ventilation, and capturing the sun's heat where appropriate;
- f) minimising and managing waste in a sustainable way, particularly through re-use and recycling;
- g) protecting and enhancing South Staffordshire's natural and historic assets including natural habitats, the character and quality of the landscape and valued historic landscapes and the wider countryside, mitigation against the worst effects of climate change and pursuing biodiversity enhancement schemes and historic environment management proposals;

- h) protecting and enhancing the character, local distinctiveness and setting of villages;
- i) protecting and enhancing essential community facilities and services including sole facilities, buildings and open spaces, primary care and healthcare facilities;
- j) guiding development away from known areas of flood risk as identified in the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, Surface Water Management Plan and consistent with NPPF;
- k) ensuring the use of sustainable drainage (Sustainable Drainage Systems) in all new development and promoting the retrofitting of SUDs where possible;
- l) ensuring that all development includes pollution prevention measures where appropriate to prevent risk of pollution to controlled waters;
- m) protecting the amenities of our residents and seeking to improve their overall quality of life through the provision of appropriate infrastructure, facilities and services.
- n) consideration of the impact that development will have on the sterilisation of mineral resources and the potential for future extraction of these minerals

Development proposals should be consistent with the adopted Village Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (or subsequent revisions), the Supplementary Planning Document on Sustainable Development and other local planning policies.

### **Explanation**

- 7.30 It is recognised that the Site Allocations DPD is likely to take up to 2 years to achieve adoption status. In the interim, if the Council is unable to demonstrate the existence of a 5 year supply of deliverable housing land, applications for housing will be considered in the context of the presumption in favour of sustainable development, subject to the restrictions of policies which indicate that development should be restricted (para 14, footnote 9 NPPF).
- 7.31 Sustainable development is at the heart of the local planning strategy for South Staffordshire and the Council has a key role to play in reducing carbon emissions, stabilising the climate adapting to unavoidable changes in the District, such as new housing development and infrastructure. The aim will be to manage change in a sustainable way in accordance with national planning objectives and the Council's strategic objectives. This will be addressed through focusing on the efficient use of energy and resources as well as encouraging innovative design and construction techniques, and accommodating renewable energy. Development must be located, designed, serviced and accessed in ways that contribute to the character and local

distinctiveness of South Staffordshire and help promote sustainable communities and the achievement of sustainable development.

- 7.32 Core Policy 3 underpins the Core Strategy and provides a set of key criteria that will be applied to development proposals. It reflects the importance attached to sustainable development in Strategic Objectives 6 and 7. The Sustainable Community Strategy will have an important role to play in delivering action at the community level, through community based initiatives and locality working.

**Key Evidence**

Sustainable Community Strategy 2008 - 2020  
 Staffordshire County-wide Renewable / Low Carbon Energy Study 2010  
 Southern Staffordshire Outline Water Cycle Study 2010  
 Southern Staffordshire Surface Water Management Plan Phase 1 2010  
 South Staffordshire Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 2008  
 South Staffordshire Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan 2008  
 Draft Phase 2 Surface Water Management Plan for Penkridge Village 2011

**Monitoring**

Through Development Policies EQ5, EQ6, EQ7, EQ8, EQ9 and EQ10  
 LSP Environmental Quality Delivery Plan

The monitoring arrangements are set out in the Monitoring Framework in Appendix 1.

**Development Policies**

- 7.33 The following Development Policies support Core Policy 3.

**Policy EQ5: Sustainable Resources and Energy Efficiency**

To ensure that development minimises environmental impacts, including lowering the demand for energy and water, securing the highest viable standards of resource and energy efficiency and achieving greater resilience to changes in climate, minimum sustainability standards are required for all new build and retrofitted developments.

With regard to reducing carbon emissions, all new residential development will be required to achieve the minimum carbon standards as set out in the following carbon targets framework:

Period	Domestic Reductions	
	Regulated (vs Part L 2006)	Minimum Proportion of Low and Zero Carbon



## **Promoting High Quality Design**

### **Introduction**

- 7.53 Planning has a key role to play in achieving better-designed buildings and enhancing the environment of our villages. Good design has an important role in promoting sustainable development and protecting local character and distinctiveness. Good design in the creation of buildings, streets and spaces is an important component of enriching and improving the quality of life for the community.

#### **Core Policy 4: Promoting High Quality Design**

The Council will expect all development proposals to achieve a high quality of design of buildings and their landscape setting, in order to achieve the vision of a high quality environment for South Staffordshire. Support will be given to proposals that are consistent with the detailed design policy set out in Policy EQ11 and the guidance in the adopted Village Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (or subsequent revisions), and be informed by any other local design statements, and meet the following requirements:

- a) to provide an attractive, functional, accessible, safe, healthy and secure environment;
- b) to respect and enhance local character and distinctiveness of the natural and built environment including opportunities to improve the character and quality of the area and the way it functions;
- c) to incorporate measures to reduce the risk of flooding and prepare for the predicted effects of climate change;
- d) to make a positive contribution to the public realm including the incorporation of public art where appropriate;
- e) to adopt sustainable construction principles and use locally sourced and recycled materials wherever possible;
- f) to incorporate accessibility measures to meet the needs of users and facilitate access through sustainable forms of transport;
- g) to facilitate and encourage physical activity through outdoor sport, recreation (informal sport and play) walking and cycling;
- h) to secure improvements to public spaces and the provision of additional public spaces.

Development proposals will be assessed against the design criteria in the Village Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (or subsequent revisions) and where appropriate should take into account the actions and recommendations contained in the Council's Conservation Area

Management Plans.

Development proposals should be consistent with other local planning policies.

**Explanation**

- 7.54 The Council has adopted a Village Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document with the aim of promoting the highest standards of design and construction in new development and to encourage buildings that are sustainable in construction and in use. The Council will also promote a high standard of landscape design to secure the best environment. Supported by the strong commitment to protect South Staffordshire's environmental assets, the Council will seek to ensure that the historic character of our villages is maintained and enhanced and that new development respects local character and distinctiveness. Development should be designed to create a safe, healthy and secure environment and make efficient use of resources. This approach reflects Strategic Objectives 5 and 14.
- 7.55 All new buildings and spaces must enhance and respect their surroundings and contribute towards local character and distinctiveness. Developments must be of the appropriate scale, design and materials for their location and conform to the design principles set out in above Policy. Public art may make a contribution in enhancing local character and distinctiveness and will be supported wherever appropriate.
- 7.56 Further detailed guidance on design and the requirements for new development is set out below in Policy EQ11 and reference should be made to the adopted Village Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (or subsequent revisions). All those proposing development will be advised to refer to the Department for Transport Manual for Streets, the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) Building for Life standards, the CABE document Physical Activity and the Built Environment, Sport England's Active Design and the web-based toolkit the 'West Midlands Sustainability Checklist (Advantage West Midlands)'. Those proposing new housing development are also advised to consult the Government document 'Code for Sustainable Homes' which provides a national standard for the construction of new homes.
- 7.57 Reference to 'Building for Life', the 'West Midlands Sustainability Checklist' and the Department for Transport Manual for Streets is to ensure that early in the development stage, careful attention is given to high quality and sustainable design principles. Reference to the Council's adopted Village Design Guide (or subsequent revisions) is also essential to ensure that careful attention is given to the requirements and guidance relevant to the distinctiveness of South Staffordshire.

**Key Evidence**

Sustainable Community Strategy 2008 - 2020

## **Development Policies**

7.9 The following Development Policies support Core Policy 2.

### **Policy EQ1: Protecting, Enhancing and Expanding Natural Assets**

Permission will be granted for development (alone or in combination) which would not cause significant harm to sites and/or habitats of nature conservation, geological or geomorphological value, including ancient woodlands and hedgerows, together with species that are protected or under threat. Support will be given to proposals which enhance and increase the number of sites and habitats of nature conservation value, and to meeting the objectives of the Staffordshire Biodiversity Action Plan (SBAP).

In line with the objectives of the Water Framework Directive (WFD), development proposals must not adversely affect the ecological status of a water body and wherever possible take measures to improve ecological value in order to help meet the required status.

#### *International Sites*

Any proposed development that could have an adverse affect on the integrity of an international wildlife, geodiversity or landscape site (e.g. Natura 2000 or Ramsar site, Special Area of Conservation) or on ground water flows to those sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects, will not be permitted unless it can be demonstrated that the legislative provisions to protect such sites can be fully met.

#### *National Sites*

Protected wildlife, geodiversity and landscape sites designated under national legislation are shown on the Policies Map [e.g. Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), National Nature Reserves (NNRs)] and will be protected under the terms of that legislation.

#### *Local Sites*

Locally important sites are also identified [e.g. Sites of Biological Importance (SBIs), Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGs), Local Nature Reserves (LNRs)] and will be protected and enhanced. Outside the areas designated, the interests of nature conservation must be taken into account in accordance with national guidance.

The restoration or creation of new habitats and the expansion of habitats in South Staffordshire will be supported where these contribute to priorities in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan and the Staffordshire Biodiversity Action Plan including priority habitats such as native woodland, hedgerows, and lowland heathland. Areas or sites for the restoration or creation of biodiversity priority habitats will be identified through Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping working in partnership with

Natural England, Staffordshire Wildlife Trust and Staffordshire County Council.

Wherever possible, development proposals should build in biodiversity by incorporating ecologically sensitive design and features for biodiversity within the development scheme.

Development proposals should be consistent with the Supplementary Planning Documents on Biodiversity and Landscape Character and other local planning policies.

### **Explanation**

- 7.10 The Policy seeks to protect and enhance the natural environment including the protection of trees, woodlands and hedgerows and is consistent with the NPPF.
- 7.11 Development should be supported on sites where it can be demonstrated that satisfactory mitigation measures for species and habitats can be created. The natural environment such as trees should also be integrated into the built environment for health and wellbeing, amenity and biodiversity benefits and climate change mitigation.
- 7.12 The Policy covers all aspects of biological and geological interest and provides direct support for the Staffordshire Biodiversity Action Plan. Within South Staffordshire, areas of native woodland and lowland heathland and hedgerows are identified as priority habitats and the Council will work with its partners in the restoration and creation of these habitats.

### **Key Evidence**

Sustainable Community Strategy 2008 - 2020  
Habitats Regulation Assessment Review of the Core Strategy 2010  
Staffordshire Biodiversity Action Plan 2001  
Staffordshire Geodiversity Action Plan 2004  
Staffordshire Ecological Records  
Tree and Woodland Strategy 2010  
Open Space Strategy 2009  
Cannock Chase AONB Management Plan 2009 - 2014  
Evidence Base relating to Cannock Chase SAC and the Appropriate Assessment of Local Authority Core Strategies 2010  
Cannock Chase Visitor Impact Mitigation Strategy 2010  
Assessment of Physical and Environmental Constraints 2009

### **Delivery and Monitoring**

Through the Development Management process in consultation with Natural England and other partners

Management Plans for Local Nature Reserves  
Management Plans for major open spaces  
Cannock Chase AONB Management Plan  
LSP Environmental Quality Delivery Plan  
Biodiversity and Geodiversity Action Plans  
Biodiversity SPD

The monitoring arrangements are set out in the Monitoring Framework in Appendix 1.

### **Policy EQ2: Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation**

Development will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that it will not be likely to lead directly or indirectly to an adverse effect upon the integrity of the Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

A net increase of housing development within the areas of South Staffordshire that fall within the Zone of Influence around Cannock Chase SAC (as identified by current evidence and subject to further research) that is likely to have an adverse impact upon Cannock Chase SAC should mitigate for such effects, in line with the ongoing work to outline the pressures on the SAC caused by recreation and visitor pressure. This may include contributions to habitat management, access management and visitor infrastructure, publicity, education and awareness raising; and provision of suitable alternative natural green recreational space, within development sites where they can be accommodated and where they cannot by contributions to offsite alternative green space.

The effective avoidance of and/or mitigation for any identified adverse effects on the Cannock Chase SAC must be demonstrated to the Council as the Competent Authority and Natural England and secured prior to the Council giving approval of development. This Policy has jurisdiction over developments within South Staffordshire only; however it will be implemented jointly with neighbouring authorities via the application of complementary policies in partner Local Plans.

Development proposals should be consistent with other local planning policies.

### **Explanation**

- 7.13 South Staffordshire Council has worked jointly with Staffordshire County Council, Cannock Chase District Council, Lichfield District Council and Stafford Borough Council on a Study to look at the Evidence Base relating to Cannock Chase SAC and the Appropriate Assessment of Local Authority Core Strategies Appropriate Assessment in relation to Cannock Chase SAC (as per the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC). The Study highlights that increased development within a certain distance of the SAC could result in increased pressures placed on the integrity of the SAC, from increased visitor numbers

and trampling, and also potential increases in road traffic air pollution. As it is paramount for the responsible authorities to protect the integrity of all European sites, the Council must ensure that the site is not harmed as a result of additional development in the District. The Study demonstrates that in order to maintain the integrity of the SAC, there is a need to provide additional recreation spaces in the District, alongside other mitigation measures e.g. developer contributions to positive habitat management.

- 7.14 The Study also considered the impact of water use on the SAC but demonstrated that there are unlikely to be any significant impacts arising from increased water use and abstraction in this District (although this is an issue for some neighbouring authorities). By implementing the Cannock Chase Visitor Impact Mitigation Strategy and relevant policies in the relevant Core Strategies, suitable mitigation measures will be in place to overcome possible adverse impacts affecting the integrity of the SAC. Cross-boundary working will be supported in order to ensure strategic sites, such as the AONB and Cannock Chase SAC, are protected and enhanced. Implementation of the Visitor Impact Mitigation Strategy for Cannock Chase SAC requires the provision of additional recreation space within the SAC Zone of Influence. Such measures will be progressed on a cross-boundary basis and through a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). The proposed SPD will not be a cross-boundary document. The SAC policy has been informed by evidence which is based on a visitor survey carried out in 2000. It has been recognised that further work is needed on the visitor use of the SAC and research is ongoing on a new visitor survey involving a partnership of local authorities, including the Black Country authorities, and an up-to-date impact assessment will be produced based on this new survey information.

#### **Key Evidence**

Evidence Base relating to Cannock Chase SAC and the Appropriate Assessment of Local Authority Core Strategies 2010  
Cannock Chase Visitor Impact Mitigation Strategy 2010  
Habitats Regulation Assessment Review of the Core Strategy 2010

#### **Delivery and Monitoring**

Through the Development Management process in consultation with Natural England and other partners  
Cannock Chase AONB Management Plan

The monitoring arrangements are set out in the Monitoring Framework in Appendix 1.

own survey work, will help to explain how the historic built environment has evolved and to identify buildings for the local list.

- 7.19 This comprehensive evidence base will emerge as a Supplementary Planning Document which encompasses the Historic Environment, identifying the main issues, and will also be used to inform and refresh the Village Design Guide.
- 7.20 In order to ensure that buildings at risk are saved or not degraded further, sometimes 'enabling development' is the only viable option. In this case paragraph (b) of this policy will be used in conjunction with guidance 'Enabling Development and the Conservation of Significant Places' issued by English Heritage in 2008 or subsequent guidance for enabling development.

### **Key Evidence**

Sustainable Community Strategy 2008 - 2020  
Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans 2010  
Village Design Guide SPD 2009  
Buildings of Special Local Interest (on going)  
Historic Environment Character Assessment 2011  
Assessment of Physical and Environmental Constraints 2009  
West Midlands Farmsteads and Landscapes Project 2010

### **Delivery and Monitoring**

Through the Development Management process in consultation with English Heritage, the County Council and other partners  
Conservation and Design advice  
Conservation Area Management Plans  
Village Design Guide SPD (or subsequent revisions)  
Historic Environment SPD  
LSP Environmental Quality Delivery Plan

The monitoring arrangements are set out in the Monitoring Framework in Appendix 1.

### **Policy EQ4: Protecting and Enhancing the Character and Appearance of the Landscape**

The intrinsic rural character and local distinctiveness of the South Staffordshire landscape should be maintained and where possible enhanced. Trees, veteran trees, woodland, ancient woodland and hedgerows should be protected from damage and retained unless it can be demonstrated that removal is necessary and appropriate mitigation can be achieved. For visual and ecological reasons, new and replacement planting should be of locally native species.

The Council will encourage and support the creation of new woodlands

and the management of existing woodlands particularly where they contribute to community forestry. Reference should be made to the Council's Tree and Woodland Strategy.

Throughout the District, the design and location of new development should take account of the characteristics and sensitivity of the landscape and its surroundings, and not have a detrimental effect on the immediate environment and on any important medium and long distance views.

The siting, scale, and design of new development will need to take full account of the nature and distinctive qualities of the local landscape. The use of techniques, such as landscape character analysis, to establish the local importance and the key features that should be protected and enhanced, will be supported.

Proposals should retain and strengthen the components of landscape character and local distinctiveness, with particular attention to the detailing of any proposal and its relationship with existing buildings, features and vegetation. Proposals within the Historic Landscape Areas (HLA) defined on the Policies Map should have special regard to the desirability of conserving and enhancing the historic landscape character, important landscape features and the setting of the HLA. The County Council's Landscape Character Assessment and Historic Landscape Characterisation will provide an informed framework for the decision making process.

Where possible, opportunities should be taken to add character and distinctiveness through the contribution of new landscape features, particularly to landscapes which have been degraded.

Development within the Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and its setting as shown on the Policies Map will be subject to special scrutiny, in accordance with national policy and any additional guidance, in order to conserve and enhance the landscape, nature conservation and recreation interests of the area.

Proposals that contribute to the objectives of the Cannock Chase AONB Management Plan, the Forest of Mercia and other local initiatives that will contribute to enhancing landscape character will be supported.

Development proposals should be consistent with the adopted Village Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (or subsequent revisions), the Supplementary Planning Documents on Landscape Character and Biodiversity and other local planning policies.

### **Explanation**

- 7.21 The landscape of South Staffordshire is rich and varied and includes part of the Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). It is an important objective of the Core Strategy to protect the character and appearance of the landscape and conserve this heritage for the future. The



NPPF states that the highest status of protection in relation to landscape and scenic beauty should be given to AONBs, and the extent of the Cannock Chase AONB, to which the national policy applies, is shown on the Policies Map.

- 7.22 There are 13 historic parklands and gardens in South Staffordshire, at Chillington, Enville, Four Ashes, Hatherton, Hilton, Himley/Wodehouse, Somerford, Stretton, Teddesley, Patshull, Prestwood, Wergs and Weston. The parklands at Chillington Hall, Enville, and Weston Park are of particularly high quality and have been identified as Grade ii\* in the National Register of Historic Parks and Gardens by English Heritage. Patshull Hall and Himley Hall have been identified as Grade ii.
- 7.23 Historic parklands are valuable heritage assets and important to the distinctive rural character of South Staffordshire. They may contain avenues of trees, woodlands, individual veteran trees, areas of wood pasture, lakes and other water features, historic earthworks, moats, hedges, banks and green lanes which are all valuable habitats for wildlife. They also have potential for environmental education and tourism, as well as contributing to the attractiveness of the landscape.
- 7.24 The historic parklands and gardens in South Staffordshire, including those designated as Registered Parks and Gardens have been designated as 'Historic Landscape Areas' (HLAs) to protect them from inappropriate development and management. The principle of the HLAs was first established in the 1996 Local Plan and has been carried forward into the new local planning strategy to ensure that these areas are retained for the future.
- 7.25 The Council will encourage and support the conservation, enhancement and sustainable management of these heritage assets through the preparation of conservation management plans. The Council will work with landowners, English Heritage, the Staffordshire Gardens and Parks Trust, the Garden History Society, Natural England, Staffordshire Wildlife Trust and Staffordshire County Council on matters relating to historic parklands and gardens.
- 7.26 The Policy is consistent with the NPPF. Any development which will have an impact on the landscape should address the intrinsic character of its surroundings, and seek where possible to retain and strengthen the intrinsic character of areas. Landscape character analysis will be an important technique in many circumstances, utilising detailed work already undertaken by Staffordshire County Council in the Supplementary Planning Document 'Planning for Landscape Change' and work on historic landscape characterisation. More detailed guidance on landscape character will be included in a Supplementary Planning Document.

**Key Evidence**

Sustainable Community Strategy 2008 - 2020  
Planning for Landscape Change – Staffordshire County Council SPG 1996-2011

and the provision of recycling facilities in new development. These need to be well-designed, in terms of efficiency and encouragement of use, and located in sustainable locations (particularly village centres, where use can be associated with the purpose of other trips). Reflecting other Local Plan policies, development proposals should minimise environmental and visual impact, and respect the interests of nature conservation and the historic environment.

### **Key Evidence**

Sustainable Community Strategy 2008 - 2020  
South Staffordshire Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan 2008  
South Staffordshire Waste Strategy 2009  
Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Waste Core Strategy 2010 - 2026

### **Delivery and Monitoring**

Through the Development Management process in consultation with Environment Agency and other partners  
LSP Environmental Quality Delivery Plan  
Sustainable Development SPD

The monitoring arrangements are set out in the Monitoring Framework in Appendix 1.

### **Policy EQ9: Protecting Residential Amenity**

All development proposals should take into account the amenity of any nearby residents, particularly with regard to privacy, security, noise and disturbance, pollution (including light pollution), odours and daylight.

Noise sensitive developments such as housing development will not be permitted in the vicinity of established noise generating uses where potential for harmful noise levels is known to exist unless measures to suppress noise sources can be provided through condition or legal agreement.

Development likely to generate harmful noise levels will be directed to appropriate locations away from known noise sensitive locations and noise sensitive habitats unless measures to suppress noise can be provided for the life of the development through legal agreement.

Sensitive developments such as housing will not be permitted in the vicinity of established sources of pollution which may give rise to harm to the amenity of occupants. Proposals involving the reuse and conversion of redundant agricultural buildings to residential use should not take place where agricultural use involving the keeping of animals or associated

waste is to be retained in adjacent buildings.

Development likely to harm the amenity of neighbouring residents will be directed to appropriate locations away from known sensitive locations.

Development must not unacceptably reduce the existing level of amenity space about buildings, particularly dwellings, and not unacceptably affect the amenity of residents or occupants.

Development proposals should be consistent with other local planning policies.

### **Explanation**

- 7.49 The NPPF sets out the key role of the planning system to deliver sustainable development, including the role of planning in relation to the protection of amenity. The above Policy sets out the general principles relating to residential amenity particularly in respect of important issues such as privacy, noise and disturbance and pollution including the amenity of residents living adjacent to buildings in agricultural use. The policy also considers reasonable levels of private amenity space and seeks to safeguard the amenity of neighbours.

### **Key Evidence**

South Staffordshire Contaminated Land Strategy 2001  
Air Quality Updating and Screening Assessment 2009

### **Delivery and Monitoring**

Through the Development Management process in consultation with Environment Agency and other partners  
Air Quality Management Areas  
LSP Environmental Quality Delivery Plan  
Village Design Guide SPD (or subsequent revisions)

The monitoring arrangements are set out in the Monitoring Framework in Appendix 1.

### **Policy EQ10: Hazardous and Environmentally Sensitive Development**

The public, land uses and the natural environment will be protected from the actual or potential effects of hazardous or other activities likely to be detrimental to public health or amenity.

Village Design Guide SPD 2009  
Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans 2010  
Open Space Strategy 2009

### **Delivery and Monitoring**

Through Development Policy EQ13  
LSP Environmental Quality Delivery Plan  
Conservation Area Management Plans  
Village Design Guide SPD (or subsequent revisions)

The monitoring arrangements are set out in the Monitoring Framework in Appendix 1.

### **Development Policies**

7.58 The following Development Policies support Core Policy 4.

#### **Policy EQ11: Wider Design Considerations**

The design of all developments must be of the highest quality and the submission of design statements supporting and explaining the design components of proposals will be required. Proposals should be consistent with the design guidance set out in the adopted Village Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (or subsequent revisions) and be informed by any other local design statements.

Development proposals must seek to achieve creative and sustainable designs that take into account local character and distinctiveness, and reflect the principles set out below. The Council will encourage innovative design solutions.

##### **A. Use**

- a) mixed use developments will be encouraged where the uses are compatible with and complementary to each other and to other uses in the existing community, and where the development will help support a range of services and public transport (existing or new);
- b) proposals should where possible promote a density and mix of uses which create vitality and interest where appropriate to their setting;

##### **B. Movement**

- c) opportunities should be taken to create and preserve layouts giving a choice of easy and alternative interconnecting routes, including access to facilities and public transport and offer a safe, attractive environment for all users;

- d) provision should be made, especially within the proximity of homes, for safe and attractive walking and cycling conditions, including the provision of footpath links, cycleways and cycle parking facilities, and links to green infrastructure in accordance with Policies EV11 and HWB2;

**C. Form**

- e) proposals should respect local character and distinctiveness including that of the surrounding development and landscape, in accordance with Policy EQ4, by enhancing the positive attributes whilst mitigating the negative aspects;
- f) in terms of scale, volume, massing and materials, development should contribute positively to the streetscene and surrounding buildings, whilst respecting the scale of spaces and buildings in the local area;
- g) development should relate to and respect any historic context of the site, including plot patterns and street layout taking account of the guidance contained in Policy EQ3;
- h) development within or adjacent to a waterway corridor should take advantage of the waterside setting with an appropriate green corridor taking account of the aims and objectives of Policy HWB2;
- i) development should take every opportunity to create good design that respects and safeguards key views, visual amenity, roofscapes, landmarks, and focal points;
- j) development should take account of traditional design and forms of construction where appropriate, and avoid the use of inappropriate details;
- k) development should incorporate high quality building design and detailing, with particular attention given to appropriately designed elements;
- l) development must ensure a high standard of access for all and that safe and easy access is available to all potential users, regardless of ability, age or gender;
- m) sustainable forms of development should be designed, incorporating renewable energy use, minimising waste production and providing opportunities for recycling, and minimising pollution. Development should seek to minimise water use including the incorporation of water recycling and harvesting, and ensure the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS). Use or re-use of sustainable materials will be encouraged. Orientation and layout of development should maximise the potential for passive solar heating, taking account of the implications of solar heat gain;

**D. Space**

- n) proposals should create pedestrian-friendly places that allow for necessary vehicular access;
- o) places should be safe and secure, with effective natural surveillance;
- p) well designed private and semi-private open space should be incorporated for all buildings, appropriate to the character of the area;
- q) opportunities should be taken to support the development of a varied network of attractive, and usable publicly accessible spaces;
- r) provision for parking should where possible be made in discreet but planned locations within the development;
- s) design should seek to retain existing important species and habitats and maximise opportunities for habitat enhancement, creation and management in accordance with Policy EQ1.

The Council's Space About Dwelling standards are set out in Appendix 6.

Development proposals should be consistent with other local planning policies.

**Explanation**

- 7.59 The Council attaches significant importance to securing a high level of design quality in the District and this is reflected in the adopted Village Design Guide SPD (or subsequent revisions). The NPPF also refers to the importance of achieving high quality and inclusive design and the CABI publication "Making Design Policy Work" highlights a number of important issues to take into account in developing a policy approach to design.
- 7.60 The design guidance set out in the above Policy identifies the importance of local character and distinctiveness, and gives guidance on achieving sustainable development, use, movement, form and space. Achieving safe designs will be important and issues relating to community safety are addressed in Core Policy 13 and Policy CS1.

**Key Evidence**

Sustainable Community Strategy 2008 – 2020  
Southern Staffordshire Surface Water Management Plan Phase 1 2010  
Planning for Landscape Change – Staffordshire County Council SPG 1996-

### **Policy GB1: Development in the Green Belt**

Within the South Staffordshire portion of the West Midlands Green Belt as defined on the Policies Map, development acceptable within the terms of national planning policy set out in the NPPF will normally be permitted where the proposed development is for either:

**A.** A new or extended building, provided it is for:

- a) purposes directly related to agriculture or forestry; or
- b) appropriate small-scale facilities for outdoor sport or recreation, nature conservation, cemeteries and for other uses of land which preserve the openness of the Green Belt and which do not conflict with its purposes; or
- c) affordable housing where there is a proven local need in accordance with Policy H2; or
- d) limited infilling\* and limited extension(s), alteration or replacement of an existing building where the extension(s) or alterations are not disproportionate to the size of the original building, and in the case of a replacement building the new building is not materially larger than the building it replaces. Guidance in these matters will be contained in the Green Belt and Open Countryside Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

**B.** The re-use of a building provided that:

- e) the proposed use of any building (taking into account the size of any extensions, rebuilding or required alterations), would not harm the openness of the Green Belt or the fulfilment of its purposes.

**C.** Changes of Use of Land:

- f) the carrying out of engineering or other operations, or the making of a material change of use of land, where the works or use proposed would have no material effect on the openness of the Green Belt, or the fulfilment of its purposes.

**D.** Development brought forward under a Community Right to Build Order.

Development proposals should be consistent with other local planning policies.

*\*Footnote: Limited infilling is defined as the filling of small gaps (1 or 2 buildings) within a built up frontage of development which would not exceed the height of the existing buildings, not lead to a major increase in the developed proportion of the site, or have a greater impact on the openness of the Green Belt and the purpose of including land within it.*

# **IMPORTANT – THIS COMMUNICATION AFFECTS YOUR PROPERTY**

## **TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990**

(As amended by the Planning and Compensation Act 1991)

### **ENFORCEMENT NOTICE**

#### Operational Development

**ISSUED BY:** South Staffordshire District Council

1. **THIS NOTICE** is issued by the Council because it appears to them that there has been a breach of planning control, within paragraph (a) of section 171A(1) of the above Act, at the Land described below. They consider that it is expedient to issue this notice, having regard to the provisions of the development plan and to other material planning considerations. The Annex at the end of the notice and the enclosures to which it refers contain important additional information.

#### **2. THE LAND TO WHICH THIS NOTICE RELATES**

Land at Meadow View Paradise Lane Slade Heath Staffordshire WV10 7NZ outlined in red on the plan ("the Plan") attached to this notice ("the Land").

#### **3. THE MATTERS WHICH APPEAR TO CONSTITUTE THE BREACH OF PLANNING CONTROL**

Without planning permission, the construction of a brick built two storey building ("the Building") for the purposes of an independent residential dwelling house in the approximate position shaded blue of the Plan.

#### **4. REASONS FOR ISSUING THIS NOTICE**

It appears to the Council that the breach of planning control on the Land has occurred within the last four years, and therefore is not immune from enforcement action.

The unauthorised development is located in an area of countryside and designated Green Belt to the east of the village of Coven. The land is also within a 15km radius Zone of Influence for the Cannock Chase SAC. The unauthorised development is the construction of a brick built two storey residential dwelling house set to the rear of the Land.

The unauthorised development is located within the designated Green Belt. Paragraphs 147 and 148 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2021 (NPPF) make clear that inappropriate development is by definition, harmful to the greenbelt and that 'very special circumstances' must exist which clearly outweigh any harm for development to be permitted. No 'very special circumstances' exist for the unauthorised development, and it is therefore inappropriate development contrary to policy GB1 Of the Core Strategy (2012) and the Green Belt and Open Countryside SPD (2014).



Paragraph 80 of the NPPF advises against development of isolated homes in the countryside subject to exceptions, none of which apply in this situation. Unjustified new dwellings in the countryside would set an undesirable precedent for ad-hoc and unrestricted residential development in the countryside of significant harm to the intrinsic rural character and contrary to Core policy 1 of the Core Strategy (2012).

The unauthorised development is in a highly visible location when viewed from the access road and from views from New Road. The siting to the rear of the property amounts to back land development and is in direct conflict with the landscape setting and respected settlement form of the residential dwellings in the area which follow a linear fashion and front directly onto the roads. It has brought a substantively more suburban feel to the otherwise rural area and appears alien and awkward in its setting of detriment to the otherwise relatively undeveloped rural character and appearance of the area.

The unauthorised development is sited immediately to the rear of the garden of the neighbouring properties where first floor windows face the garden and primary outdoor amenity space of the neighbouring site. Furthermore, the proximity of the unauthorised development to the boundary is overbearing, imposing, intrusive in its setting, and of detriment to the level of amenity reasonably anticipated for the neighbouring property. As a result, the unauthorised development is contrary to the guidance contained within Chapter 12 of the NPPF, Core Policies 3 and 4, and development policies EQ4, EQ9 and EQ11 of the Core Strategy, and the Council's Design Guide 2018.

The land is within 15km radius of the Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation (SAC) which is protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 and the NPPF at paragraph 182 makes clear that the presumption in favour of sustainable development does not apply where development is likely to have a significant effect on an SAC. No Habitat Regulations Assessment has been submitted or mitigation has been provided and based on the precautionary principle the Authority cannot be satisfied that that the new dwelling will not be likely lead directly or indirectly to have a significant adverse impact on the integrity of the Cannock Chase SAC contrary to, Core Policy 2, and development Policies EQ1 and EQ2, and the Cannock Chase SAC guidance document (2022).

Paragraph 8(c) of the NPPF highlights the need to improve biodiversity to achieve sustainable development. Strategic objective 4 and Core Policy 2 of the Core Strategy aims to protect, conserve, and enhance the diversity of wildlife and habitats. Further, the NPPF encourages that all new development should provide beneficial biodiversity features as part of good design and leave the natural environment in a measurably better state than it was beforehand. Paragraph 174 specifically seeks to conserve and enhance the natural environment by minimising any impacts and providing net gains for biodiversity. No consideration has been given to biodiversity on the site and no mitigation or compensation has been provided.

Given the substantial harm articulated above the Council do not consider that conditions could overcome the issues caused by the unauthorised development. The Council consider that planning permission should not be given, because planning conditions could not overcome these objections to the development.

**5. WHAT YOU ARE REQUIRED TO DO**

**You Must**

- i) Cease the use of the Building on the Plan as an independent residential dwelling house.
- ii) Demolish the Building including the concrete slab and footings.
- iii) Remove all materials and debris resulting from compliance with ii) above from the Land.

**6. TIME FOR COMPLIANCE**

Within six months from the date the notice takes effect.

**7. WHEN THIS NOTICE TAKES EFFECT**

This Notice takes effect on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023, unless an appeal is made against it beforehand.

Dated: 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023



Signed:

Annette Roberts

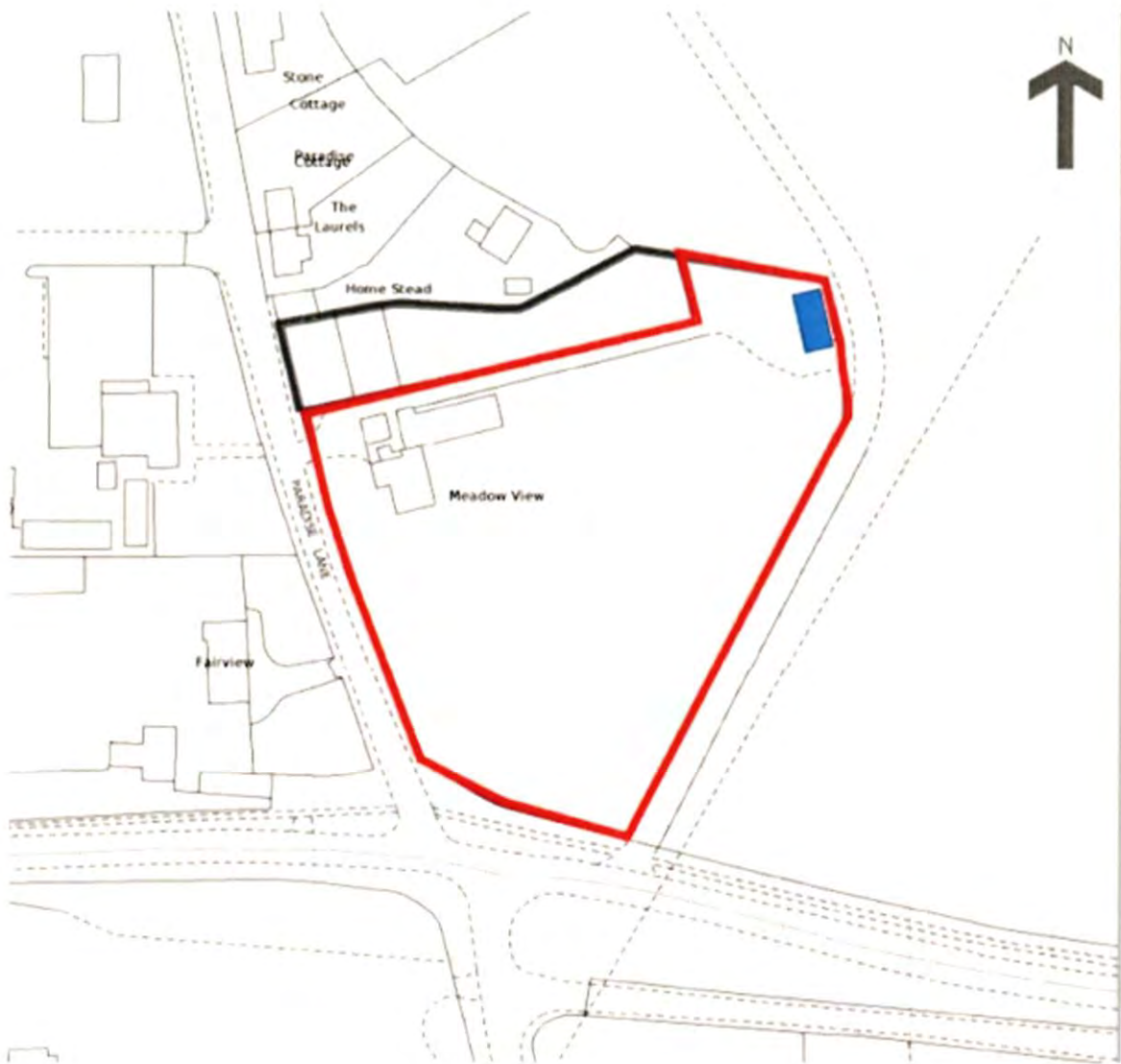
Corporate Director Infrastructure & Business Growth, South Staffordshire District Council, Council Offices,  
Wolverhampton Road, Codsall, South Staffordshire WV8 1PX

Nominated Officer:

Mark Bray, Planning Enforcement Team, South Staffordshire District Council, Council Offices, Wolverhampton  
Road, Codsall, South Staffordshire WV8 1PX

RED LINE PLAN TO ACCOMPANY ENFORCEMENT NOTICE

Meadow View Paradise Lane Slade Heath Staffordshire WV10 7NZ



## **IMPORTANT – THIS COMMUNICATION AFFECTS YOUR PROPERTY**

### **Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)**

**Enforcement Notice relating to land and premises** Land at Meadow View Paradise Lane Slade Heath Staffordshire WV10 7NZ.

This local planning authority, South Staffordshire Council, has issued an enforcement notice relating to the above land and you are served with a copy of that notice as you have an interest in the Land. Copies of the notice are also being served on the parties listed on the Notice who, it is understood, also have an interest in the Land.

There is a right of appeal to the Secretary of State (at The Planning Inspectorate) against the notice. Unless an appeal is made, as described below, the notice will take effect on 22nd June 2023 and you must ensure that the required steps, are taken within the period(s) specified in the notice.

**Please see the enclosed information sheet from The Planning Inspectorate which tells you how to make an appeal.**

If you decide that you want to appeal against the enforcement notice you must ensure that you send your appeal soon enough so that normally it will be delivered by post/electronic transmission to the Secretary of State (at The Planning Inspectorate) before 22nd June 2023.

Under section 174 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) you may appeal on one or more of the following grounds: -

- (a) that, in respect of any breach of planning control which may be constituted by the matters stated in the notice, planning permission ought to be granted or, as the case may be, the condition or limitation concerned ought to be discharged;
- (b) that those matters have not occurred;
- (c) that those matters (if they occurred) do not constitute a breach of planning control;
- (d) that, at the date when the notice was issued, no enforcement action could be taken in respect of any breach of planning control which may be constituted by those matters;
- (e) that copies of the enforcement notice were not served as required by Section 172;
- (f) that the steps required by the notice to be taken, or the activities required by the notice to cease, exceed what is necessary to remedy any breach of planning control which may be constituted by those matters or, as the case may be, to remedy any injury to amenity which has been caused by any such breach;
- (g) that any period specified in the notice in accordance with section 173(9) falls short of what should reasonably be allowed.

Not all of these grounds may be relevant to you.

If you appeal under Ground (a) of Section 174(2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 this is the equivalent of applying for planning permission for the development alleged in the notice and you will have to pay a fee of £924.00. This amount is double the usual Planning Application fee. You should pay this fee to South Staffordshire Council (made payable to South Staffordshire Council). Joint appellants need only pay one set of fees. If you do not wish to proceed under Ground (a) then no fee is payable.

If you decide to appeal, when you submit your appeal, you should state in writing the ground(s) on which you are appealing against the enforcement notice and you should state briefly the facts on which you intend to rely in support of each of those grounds. If you do not do this when you make your appeal the Secretary of State will send you a notice requiring you to do so within 14 days.

A copy of the appeal form and a copy of the Enforcement Notice together with a cheque for £924.00 if appealing Ground a) made payable to South Staffordshire Council should be sent to the Council addressed to:-

Corporate Director Planning & Infrastructure  
South Staffordshire District Council  
Planning Department  
Council Offices  
Wolverhampton Road,  
Codsall,  
WV8 1PX

If you do not appeal against this enforcement notice, it will take effect on the 22nd June 2023 and you must then ensure that the required steps for complying with it, for which you may be held responsible, are taken within the periods specified in paragraph 6 of the notice. Failure to comply with an enforcement notice which has taken effect can result in prosecution and/or remedial action by the Council.

Planning Enforcement Contact Officer:

**Mark Bray**  
**Planning Enforcement Consultant**

**South Staffordshire District Council**  
**Planning Department**  
**Council Offices**  
**Wolverhampton Road**  
**Codsall,**  
**South Staffordshire,**  
**WV8 1PX**

**Tel: 01902 696900**

**E-mail: [m.bray@sstaffs.gov.uk](mailto:m.bray@sstaffs.gov.uk)**

**PERSONS SERVED WITH A COPY OF THIS ENFORCEMENT NOTICE**

1. LAURA MARY POUNTAIN – Meadow View, Paradise Lane, Slade Heath, Wolverhampton, WV10 7NZ
2. LEE POUNTAIN – Meadow View, Paradise Lane, Slade Heath, Wolverhampton, WV10 7NZ
3. TOGETHER PERSONAL FINANCE LIMITED Lake View, Lakeside, Cheadle SK8 3GW

# ANNEX

## YOUR RIGHT OF APPEAL.

You can appeal against this notice, but any appeal must be received, or posted in time to be received, by the Planning Inspectorate acting on behalf of the Secretary of State before the date specified in paragraph 7 of the notice. The enclosed information sheet published by the Planning Inspectorate gives details of how to make an appeal.

## WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU DO NOT APPEAL

If you do not appeal against this enforcement notice, it will take effect on the date specified in paragraph 7 of the notice and you must then ensure that the required steps for complying with it, for which you may be held responsible, are taken within the period[s] specified in paragraph 6 of the notice. Failure to comply with an enforcement notice which has taken effect can result in prosecution and/or remedial action by the Council.

## Relevant Extracts from the Town & Country Planning Act 1990

### [171A. — Expressions used in connection with enforcement.

- (1) For the purposes of this Act—
  - (a) Carrying out development without the required planning permission;
  - or,
  - (b) Failing to comply with any condition or limitation subject to which planning permission has been granted, constitutes a breach of planning control.
- (2) For the purposes of this Act—
  - (a) The issue of an enforcement notice (defined in section 172); or
  - (b) The service of a breach of condition notice (defined in section 187A), constitutes taking enforcement action.
- (3) In this Part “planning permission” includes permission under Part III of the 1947 Act, of the 1962 Act or of the 1971 Act.]<sup>1</sup>

#### Notes

<sup>1</sup> Added by Planning and Compensation Act 1991, c. 54 Pt 1, s 4(1) (January 2, 1992) except as it relates to breach of condition notices and subject to transitional provision specified in SI 1991/2905, July 27, 1992 otherwise subject to transitional provisions in SI 1992/1630 art 3)

#### Extent

Pt VII = 171A(1)-(3) England, Wales

### [171B. — Time limits.

- (1) Where there has been a breach of planning control consisting in the carrying out without planning permission of building, engineering, mining or other operations in, on, over or under land, no enforcement action may be taken after the end of the period of four years beginning with the date on which the operations were substantially completed.
- (2) Where there has been a breach of planning control consisting in the change of use of any building to use as a single dwelling house, no enforcement action may be taken after the end of the period of four years beginning with the date of the breach.
- (3) In the case of any other breach of planning control, no enforcement action may be taken after the end of the period of ten years beginning with the date of the breach.

(4) The preceding subsections do not prevent—

- (a) The service of a breach of condition notice in respect of any breach of planning control if an enforcement notice in respect of the breach is in effect; or
- (b) Taking further enforcement action in respect of any breach of planning control, if, during the period of four years ending with that action being taken, the local planning authority have taken or purported to take enforcement action in respect of that breach.”] <sup>1</sup>

Notes

<sup>1</sup> Added by Planning and Compensation Act 1991 c. 34 Pt 1 s 4(1) (January 7, 1992 except as it relates to breach of condition notices and subject to transitional provision specified in SI 1991/2905 July 27, 1992 otherwise subject to transitional provisions in SI 1992/1610 art 3)

Extent

Pt VII s 171B England, Wales

### [171BA Time limits in cases involving concealment

- (1) Where it appears to the local planning authority that there may have been a breach of planning control in respect of any land in England, the authority may apply to a magistrates' court for an order under this subsection (a “planning enforcement order”) in relation to that apparent breach of planning control.
- (2) If a magistrates' court makes a planning enforcement order in relation to an apparent breach of planning control, the local planning authority may take enforcement action in respect of—
  - (a) The apparent breach, or
  - (b) Any of the matters constituting the apparent breach, at any time in the enforcement year.
- (3) “The enforcement year” for a planning enforcement order is the year that begins at the end of 22 days beginning with the day on which the court's decision to make the order is given, but this is subject to subsection (4).
- (4) If an application under section 111(1) of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 (statement of case for opinion of High Court) is made in respect of a planning enforcement order, the enforcement year for the order is the year beginning with the day on which the proceedings arising from that application are finally determined or withdrawn.
- (5) Subsection (2)—
  - (a) Applies whether or not the time limits under section 171B have expired, and
  - (b) Does not prevent the taking of enforcement action after the end of the enforcement year but within those time limits.] <sup>1</sup>

Notes

<sup>1</sup> Added by Localism Act 2011 c. 20 Pt 6 s 124(1) (April 6, 2012 subject to SI 2012/678 arts 9, 12, 13, 16 and 18-20)

Extent

Pt VII s 171BA(1)-(5)(b) England, Wales

### [171BB Planning enforcement orders: procedure

- (1) An application for a planning enforcement order in relation to an apparent breach of planning control may be made within the 6 months beginning with the date on which evidence of the apparent breach of planning control sufficient in the opinion of the local planning authority to justify the application came to the authority's knowledge.



- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), a certificate—
  - (a) Signed on behalf of the local planning authority, and
  - (b) Stating the date on which evidence, sufficient in the authority's opinion to justify the application came to the authority's knowledge, is conclusive evidence of that fact.
- (3) A certificate stating that matter and purporting to be so signed is to be deemed to be so signed unless the contrary is proved.
- (4) Where the local planning authority apply to a magistrates' court for a planning enforcement order in relation to an apparent breach of planning control in respect of any land, the authority must serve a copy of the application—
  - (a) On the owner and on the occupier of the land, and
  - (b) On any other person having an interest in the land that is an interest which, in the opinion of the authority, would be materially affected by the taking of enforcement action in respect of the apparent breach.
- (5) The persons entitled to appear before, and be heard by, the court hearing an application for a planning enforcement order in relation to an apparent breach of planning control in respect of any land include—
  - (a) The applicant,
  - (b) Any person on whom a copy of the application was served under subsection (4), and
  - (c) Any other person having an interest in the land that is an interest which, in the opinion of the court, would be materially affected by the taking of enforcement action in respect of the apparent breach.
- (6) In this section "planning enforcement order" means an order under section 171BA(1).<sup>1</sup>

Notes

<sup>1</sup> Added by Legislative Act 2011 c 20 Pt 6 (s 124(1)) (April 6, 2012) subject to SI 2012/628 arts 9, 12, 13, 16 and 18, 201

Extent

Pt VII, s 171BB(1)–(6), England, Wales

**[171BC Making a planning enforcement order**

- (1) A magistrates' court may make a planning enforcement order in relation to an apparent breach of planning control only if—

*Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Page 207*

- (a) The court is satisfied, on the balance of probabilities, that the apparent breach, or any of the matters constituting the apparent breach, has (to any extent) been deliberately concealed by any person or persons, and
  - (b) The court considers it just to make the order having regard to all the circumstances.
- (2) A planning enforcement order must—
    - (a) Identify the apparent breach of planning control to which it relates, and
    - (b) State the date on which the court's decision to make the order was given.
  - (3) In this section "planning enforcement order" means an order under section 171BA(1).<sup>1</sup>

Notes

**[172. — Issue of enforcement notice.**

(1) The local planning authority may issue a notice (in this Act referred to as an "enforcement notice") where it appears to them—

- (a) That there has been a breach of planning control; and
- (b) That it is expedient to issue the notice, having regard to the provisions of the development plan and to any other material considerations.

(2) A copy of an enforcement notice shall be served—

- (a) On the owner and on the occupier of the land to which it relates; and
- (b) On any other person having an interest in the land, being an interest which, in the opinion of the authority, is materially affected by the notice.

(3) The service of the notice shall take place—

- (a) Not more than twenty-eight days after its date of issue; and
- (b) Not less than twenty-eight days before the date specified in it as the date on which it is to take effect.]<sup>1</sup>

**Notes**

<sup>1</sup> Substituted by Planning and Compensation Act 1991 ( c. 34 Pt 1 ( 5(1) ) (November 25, 1991) for certain purposes (specified in SI 1991/2728 art 2, January 2, 1992) otherwise subject to transitional provisions specified in SI 1991/2905)

**Commencement**

**Extent**

**[172A Assurance as regards prosecution for person served with notice**

(1) When, or at any time after, an enforcement notice is served on a person, the local planning authority may give the person a letter—

- (a) Explaining that, once the enforcement notice had been issued, the authority was required to serve the notice on the person,
- (b) Giving the person one of the following assurances—
  - i. That, in the circumstances as they appear to the authority, the person is not at risk of being prosecuted under section 179 in connection with the enforcement notice, or
  - ii. That, in the circumstances as they appear to the authority, the person is not at risk of being prosecuted under section 179 in connection with the matters relating to the enforcement notice that are specified in the letter,

- (c) Explaining, where the person is given the assurance under paragraph (b)(ii), the respects in which the person is at risk of being prosecuted under section 179 in connection with the enforcement notice, and
  - (d) stating that, if the authority subsequently wishes to withdraw the assurance in full or part, the authority will first give the person a letter specifying a future time for the withdrawal that will allow the person a reasonable opportunity to take any steps necessary to avoid any risk of prosecution that is to cease to be covered by the assurance
- (2) At any time after a person has under subsection (1) been given a letter containing an assurance, the local planning authority may give the person a letter withdrawing the assurance (so far as not previously withdrawn) in full or part from a time specified in the letter.

*Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Page 214*

- (3) The time specified in a letter given under subsection (2) to a person must be such as will give the person a reasonable opportunity to take any steps necessary to avoid any risk of prosecution that is to cease to be covered by the assurance.
- (4) Withdrawal under subsection (2) of an assurance given under subsection (1) does not withdraw the assurance so far as relating to prosecution on account of there being a time before the withdrawal when steps had not been taken or an activity had not ceased.
- (5) An assurance given under subsection (1) (so far as not withdrawn under subsection (2)) is binding on any person with power to prosecute an offence under section 179.<sup>1</sup>

**Notes**

<sup>1</sup> Added by Localism Act 2011 c 20 Pt 6 c 5 s 125 (Apr 6, 2012 subject to SI 2012/628 arts 9, 12, 13, 16 and 18+20)

**Extent**

[173: 172A(1)-(3) England, Wales]

**[173. — Contents and effect of notice.**

- (1) An enforcement notice shall state—
  - (a) The matters which appear to the local planning authority to constitute the breach of planning control; and
  - (b) the paragraph of section 171A(1) within which, in the opinion of the authority, the breach falls.
- (2) A notice complies with subsection (1) (a) if it enables any person on whom a copy of it is served to know what those matters are.
- (3) An enforcement notice shall specify the steps which the authority require to be taken, or the activities which the authority require to cease, in order to achieve, wholly or partly, any of the following purposes.
- (4) Those purposes are—
  - (a) Remedying the breach by making any development comply with the terms (including conditions and limitations) of any planning permission which has been granted in respect of the land, by discontinuing any use of the land or by restoring the land to its condition before the breach took place; or

- (b) Remedying any injury to amenity which has been caused by the breach.
- (5) An enforcement notice may, for example, require—
- (a) The alteration or removal of any buildings or works;
  - (b) The carrying out of any building or other operations;
  - (c) Any activity on the land not to be carried on except to the extent specified in the notice;
- Or
- (d) The contour of a deposit of refuse or waste materials on land to be modified by altering the gradient or gradients of its sides.

*Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Page 215*

- (6) Where an enforcement notice is issued in respect of a breach of planning control consisting of demolition of a building, the notice may require the construction of a building (in this section referred to as a "replacement building") which, subject to subsection (7), is as similar as possible to the demolished building.
- (7) A replacement building—
- (a) Must comply with any requirement imposed by any enactment applicable to the construction of buildings;
  - (b) May differ from the demolished building in any respect which, if the demolished building had been altered in that respect, would not have constituted a breach of planning control;
  - (c) Must comply with any regulations made for the purposes of this subsection (including regulations modifying paragraphs (a) and (b)).
- (8) An enforcement notice shall specify the date on which it is to take effect and, subject to sections 175(4) and 289(4A), shall take effect on that date.
- (9) An enforcement notice shall specify the period at the end of which any steps are required to have been taken or any activities are required to have ceased and may specify different periods for different steps or activities; and, where different periods apply to different steps or activities, references in this Part to the period for compliance with an enforcement notice, in relation to any step or activity, are to the period at the end of which the step is required to have been taken or the activity is required to have ceased.
- (10) An enforcement notice shall specify such additional matters as may be prescribed, and regulations may require every copy of an enforcement notice served under section 172 to be accompanied by an explanatory note giving prescribed information as to the right of appeal under section 174.
- (11) Where—
- (a) An enforcement notice in respect of any breach of planning control could have required any buildings or works to be removed or any activity to cease, but does not do so; and
  - (b) All the requirements of the notice have been complied with, then, so far as the notice did not so require, planning permission shall be treated as having been granted by virtue of section 73A in respect of development consisting of the construction of the buildings or works or, as the case may be, the carrying out of the activities.
- (12) Where—

- (a) An enforcement notice requires the construction of a replacement building; and
- (b) All the requirements of the notice with respect to that construction have been complied with, planning permission shall be treated as having been granted by virtue of section 73A in respect of development consisting of that construction.]<sup>1</sup>

#### Notes

<sup>1</sup> Substituted by Planning and Compensation Act 1991 c. 34 Pt I s 3(1) (November 25, 1991 for certain purposes specified in SI 1991/2728 part 2 January 2, 1992 otherwise subject to transitional provisions specified in SI 1991/2905)

#### Commencement

Pt VII s. 173: August 24, 1990 (1990 c. 8 Pt XV s. 337(2))

*Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Page 276*

#### Extent

Pt VII s. 173(1)-(12)(b): England, Wales

### 173A. — Variation and withdrawal of enforcement notices.

- (1) The local planning authority may—
  - (a) Withdraw an enforcement notice issued by them; or
  - (b) Waive or relax any requirement of such a notice and, in particular, may extend any period specified in accordance with section 173(9).
- (2) The powers conferred by subsection (1) may be exercised whether or not the notice has taken effect.
- (3) The local planning authority shall, immediately after exercising the powers conferred by subsection (1), give notice of the exercise to every person who has been served with a copy of the enforcement notice or would, if the notice were re-issued, be served with a copy of it.
- (4) The withdrawal of an enforcement notice does not affect the power of the local planning authority to issue a further enforcement notice.]<sup>1</sup>

#### Notes

<sup>1</sup> Added by Planning and Compensation Act 1991 c. 34 Pt I s 5(1) (November 25, 1991 for certain purposes specified in SI 1991/2728 art 2 January 2, 1992 otherwise subject to transitional provisions specified in SI 1991/2905)

#### Extent

Pt VII s. 173A(2)-(4): England, Wales

### 174. — Appeal against enforcement notice.

- (1) A person having an interest in the land to which an enforcement notice relates or a relevant occupier may appeal to the Secretary of State against the notice, whether or not a copy of it has been served on him.
- (2) [An appeal may be brought on any of the following grounds—
  - (a) That, in respect of any breach of planning control which may be constituted by the matters stated in the notice, planning permission ought to be granted or, as the case may be, the condition or limitation concerned ought to be discharged;
  - (b) That those matters have not occurred;

- (c) That those matters (if they occurred) do not constitute a breach of planning control;
- (d) That, at the date when the notice was issued, no enforcement action could be taken in respect of any breach of planning control which may be constituted by those matters;
- (e) That copies of the enforcement notice were not served as required by section 172;

*Towns and Country Planning Act 1990 Page 217*

- (f) That the steps required by the notice to be taken, or the activities required by the notice to cease, exceed what is necessary to remedy any breach of planning control which may be constituted by those matters or, as the case may be, to remedy any injury to amenity which has been caused by any such breach;
- (g) That any period specified in the notice in accordance with section 173(9) falls short of what should reasonably be allowed.

(2A) An appeal may not be brought on the ground specified in subsection (2)(a) if—

- (a) The land to which the enforcement notice relates is in England, and
- (b) the enforcement notice was issued at a time—
  - i. After the making of a related application for planning permission, but
  - ii. Before the end of the period applicable under section 78(2) in the case of that application.

(2B) An application for planning permission for the development of any land is, for the purposes of subsection (2A), related to an enforcement notice if granting planning permission for the development would involve granting planning permission in respect of the matters specified in the enforcement notice as constituting a breach of planning control.]<sup>2</sup>

(3) An appeal under this section shall be made [...] <sup>3</sup> —

- (a) By giving written notice of the appeal to the Secretary of State before the date specified in the enforcement notice as the date on which it is to take effect; or
- (b) By sending such notice to him in a property addressed and pre-paid letter posted to him at such time that, in the ordinary course of post, it would be delivered to him before that date [ ; or ] <sup>3</sup>
- (c) [By sending such notice to him using electronic communications at such time that, in the ordinary course of transmission, it would be delivered to him before that date.] <sup>3</sup> <sup>1</sup>

(4) A person who gives notice under subsection (3) shall submit to the Secretary of State, either when giving the notice or within the prescribed time, a statement in writing—

- (a) Specifying the grounds on which he is appealing against the enforcement notice; and
- (b) Giving such further information as may be prescribed.

(5) If, where more than one ground is specified in that statement, the appellant does not give information required under subsection (4)(b) in relation to each of those grounds within the prescribed time, the Secretary of State may determine the appeal without considering any ground as to which the appellant has failed to give such information within that time.

(6) In this section “relevant occupier” means a person who—

- (a) On the date on which the enforcement notice is issued occupies the land to which the notice relates by virtue of a licence [...] <sup>4</sup>; and
- (b) Continues so to occupy the land when the appeal is brought.

**Notes**

<sup>1</sup> Substituted by Planning and Compensation Act 1991 c. 34 Pt 1 s 6(1) (January 2, 1992; subject to transitional provisions specified in SI 1991/2975)

<sup>2</sup> Added by Localism Act 2011 c. 20 Pt 6 c 5 s 123(4) (April 6, 2012; subject to SI 2012/628 arts 9, 12, 13, 16 and 18-20)

*Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Page 218*

<sup>3</sup> s 174(3)(c) inserted in relation to Wales by Town and Country Planning (Electronic Communications) (Wales) (No. 1) Order 2014/415b art 3 (January 1, 2015)

<sup>4</sup> Words omitted by Planning and Compensation Act 1991 c. 34 Sch 7 para 22 (January 2, 1992)

**Commencement**

Pt VII s 174 August 24, 1990 (1990 c. 8 Pt XV s 337(2))

**Extent**

Pt VII s 174(1)-(6)(b) England, Wales

P Partially In Force

**175. — Appeals: supplementary provisions.**

- (1) The Secretary of State may by regulations prescribe the procedure which is to be followed on appeals under section 174 and, in particular, but without prejudice to the generality of this subsection, may—
  - (a) Require the local planning authority to submit, within such time as may be prescribed, a statement indicating the submissions which they propose to put forward on the appeal;
  - (b) Specify the matters to be included in such a statement;
  - (c) Require the authority or the appellant to give such notice of such an appeal as may be prescribed;
  - (d) Require the authority to send to the Secretary of State, within such period from the date of the bringing of the appeal as may be prescribed, a copy of the enforcement notice and a list of the persons served with copies of it.
- (2) The notice to be prescribed under subsection (1)(c) shall be such notice as in the opinion of the Secretary of State is likely to bring the appeal to the attention of persons in the locality in which the land to which the enforcement notice relates is situated.
- (3) Subject to section 176(4), the Secretary of State shall, if either the appellant or the local planning authority so desire, give each of them an opportunity of appearing before and being heard by a person appointed by the Secretary of State for the purpose.

[(3A) Subsection (3) does not apply to an appeal against an enforcement notice issued by a local planning authority in England.]<sup>1</sup>

- (4) Where an appeal is brought under section 174 the enforcement notice shall [subject to any order under section 289(4A)]<sup>2</sup> be of no effect pending the final determination or the withdrawal of the appeal.
- (5) Where any person has appealed to the Secretary of State against an enforcement notice, no person shall be entitled, in any other proceedings instituted after the making of the appeal, to claim that the notice was not duly served on the person who appealed.

(6) Schedule 6 applies to appeals under section 174, including appeals under that section as applied by regulations under any other provisions of this Act

*Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Page 219*

(7) [...] <sup>3</sup>

#### Notes

**1** Added by Planning Act 2008 c. 29 Sch 10 para 5 (April 6, 2009 in relation to England and Wales for purposes specified in SI 2009/400 art 3(j), not yet in force otherwise)

**2** Words added by Planning and Compensation Act 1991 c. 44 Pt 1 (5)(2) (January 2, 1992 subject to transitional provisions specified in SI 1991/2905)

**3** Repealed by Planning (Consequential Provisions) Act 1990 c. 11 Sch 4 para 3 (January 2, 1992; repeal has effect on January 2, 1992 for purposes specified in SI 1991/2698 art 3 subject to transitional provisions specified in SI 1991/2698 art 4 and on April 6, 2009 in relation to England only for purposes specified in SI 2009/849 art 2(2)-(3) subject to transitional provisions specified in SI 2009/849 art 3; not yet in force otherwise)

#### Commencement

Pt VII s. 175: August 24, 1990 except for the provision specified in 1990 c. 11 Sch 4 para 7, January 2, 1992 for purposes specified in SI 1991/2698 art 3, not yet in force otherwise (1990 c. 8 Pt XV s. 337(2), 1990 c. 11 Sch 4 para. 7, SI 1991/2698 art. 3)

#### Extent

Pt VII s. 175(1)-(7): England, Wales

**P** Partially In Force

### 176. — General provisions relating to determination of appeals.

(1) [On an appeal under section 174 the Secretary of State may—

- (a) Correct any defect, error or misdescription in the enforcement notice; or
- (b) Vary the terms of the enforcement notice, if he is satisfied that the correction or variation will not cause injustice to the appellant or the local planning authority.

(2) Where the Secretary of State determines to allow the appeal, he may quash the notice.

(2A) The Secretary of State shall give any directions necessary to give effect to his determination on the appeal.]<sup>1</sup>

(3) The Secretary of State—

- (a) May dismiss an appeal if the appellant fails to comply with section 174(4) within the prescribed time; and
- (b) May allow an appeal and quash the enforcement notice if the local planning authority fail to comply with any requirement of regulations made by virtue of paragraph (a), (b), or
- (c) Of section 175(1) within the prescribed period.

(4) If [section 175(3) would otherwise apply and ] **2** the Secretary of State proposes to dismiss an appeal under paragraph (a) of subsection (3) [ of this section ] **3** or to allow an appeal and quash the enforcement notice under paragraph (b) of that subsection, he need not comply with section 175(3).

(5) Where it would otherwise be a ground for determining an appeal under section 174 in favour of the appellant that a person required to be served with a copy of the enforcement notice was not served, the Secretary of State may disregard that fact if neither the appellant nor that person has been substantially prejudiced by the failure to serve him.

*Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Page 220*



## Notes

1 S.176(1)-(2A) substituted for s.176(1)-(2) by Planning and Compensation Act 1991 (c.34 Sch 2 para 21 (January 2 1992)).

2 Words inserted by Planning Act 2008 (c.29 Sch 10 para 6(a)) (April 6 2009 in relation to England and Wales for purposes specified in SI 2009/400 art 3(j), not yet in force otherwise).

3 Words inserted by Planning Act 2008 (c.29 Sch 10 para 6(b)) (April 6 2009 in relation to England and Wales for purposes specified in SI 2009/400 art 3(j), not yet in force otherwise).

## Commencement

Pt VII s.176 August 24 1990 (1990 c.8 Pt XV s.36(2))

## Extent

Pt VII s.176(1)-(5) England, Wales.

### 177. — Grant or modification of planning permission on appeals against enforcement notices.

(1) On the determination of an appeal under section 174, the Secretary of State may—

- (a) [Grant planning permission in respect of the matters stated in the enforcement notice as constituting a breach of planning control, whether in relation to the whole or any part of those matters or in relation to the whole or any part of the land to which the notice relates;]<sup>1</sup>
- (b) Discharge any condition or limitation subject to which planning permission was granted;
- (c) [Determine whether, on the date on which the appeal was made, any existing use of the land was lawful, any operations which had been carried out in, on, over or under the land were lawful or any matter constituting a failure to comply with any condition or limitation subject to which planning permission was granted was lawful and, if so, issue a certificate under section 19.]<sup>2</sup>

[(1A) The provisions of sections 191 to 194 mentioned in subsection (1B) shall apply for the purposes of subsection (1)(c) as they apply for the purposes of section 191, but as if—

- (a) Any reference to an application for a certificate were a reference to the appeal and any reference to the date of such an application were a reference to the date on which the appeal is made; and
- (b) References to the local planning authority were references to the Secretary of State.

(1B) Those provisions are: sections 191(5) to (7), 193(4) (so far as it relates to the form of the certificate), (6) and (7) and 194.]<sup>2</sup>

[(1C) If the land to which the enforcement notice relates is in England, subsection (1)(a) applies only if the statement under section 174(4) specifies the ground mentioned in section 174(2)(a).]<sup>3</sup>

- (2) In considering whether to grant planning permission under subsection (1), the Secretary of State shall have regard to the provisions of the development plan, so far as material to the subject matter of the enforcement notice, and to any other material considerations.
- (3) [The planning permission that may be granted under subsection (1) is any planning permission that might be granted on an application under Part III.]<sup>4</sup>

*town and Country Planning Act 1990 Page 221*

- (4) Where under subsection (1) the Secretary of State discharges a condition or limitation, he may substitute another condition or limitation for it, whether more or less onerous.
- (5) [Where an appeal against an enforcement notice is brought under section 174 and—
  - (a) The land to which the enforcement notice relates is in Wales, or

- (b) That land is in England and the statement under section 174(4) specifies the ground mentioned in section 174(2)(a), the appellant shall be deemed to have made an application for planning permission in respect of the matters stated in the enforcement notice as constituting a breach of planning control.]<sup>5</sup>

[(5A) Where—

- (a) The statement under subsection (4) of section 174 specifies the ground mentioned in subsection (2)(a) of that section;
- (b) Any fee is payable under regulations made by virtue of section 303 in respect of the application deemed to be made by virtue of the appeal; and
- (c) The Secretary of State gives notice in writing to the appellant specifying the period within which the fee must be paid, then, if that fee is not paid within that period, the appeal, so far as brought on that ground, and the application shall lapse at the end of that period.]<sup>6</sup>
- (6) Any planning permission granted under subsection (1) on an appeal shall be treated as granted on the application deemed to have been made by the appellant.
- (7) In relation to a grant of planning permission or a determination under subsection (1) the Secretary of State's decision shall be final.
- (8) For the purposes of section 69 the Secretary of State's decision shall be treated as having been given by him in dealing with an application for planning permission made to the local planning authority.

#### Notes

<sup>1</sup> Substituted by Planning and Compensation Act 1991 c. 34 Sch 7 para 24(1)(a) (January 2, 1992)

<sup>2</sup> S 77(1)(c), (1A) and (1B) substituted for s 77(1)(c) by Planning and Compensation Act 1991 c. 34 Sch 7 para 24(1)(b) (July 27, 1992 subject to transitional provisions specified in SI 1992/1630 art 3)

<sup>3</sup> Added by Localism Act 2011 c. 20 Pt 6 r 5 s 123(5) (April 6, 2012 subject to SI 2012/628 arts 9, 12, 13, 16 and 18-20)

<sup>4</sup> Substituted by Planning and Compensation Act 1991 c. 34 Sch 7 para 24(2) (January 2, 1992)

<sup>5</sup> Words and s 177(5)(a)-(b) substituted for words by Localism Act 2011 c. 20 Pt 6 r 5 s 123(6) (April 6, 2012 subject to SI 2012/628 arts 9, 12, 13, 16 and 18-20)

<sup>6</sup> Added by Planning and Compensation Act 1991 c. 34 Pt 1 s 6(3) (January 2, 1992 subject to transitional provisions specified in SI 1991/2905)

#### Commencement

Pt VII s 177, August 24, 1990 (1990 c. 8 Pt XV s 357(2))

#### Extent

Pt VII s 177(1)-(8) England, Wales

Customer Support Team  
Temple Quay House  
2 The Square  
Temple Quay  
Bristol  
BS1 6PN

Direct Line: 0303 444 5000

Email: [enquiries@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

## 1. THIS IS IMPORTANT

If you want to appeal against this enforcement notice you can do it:-

- online at the [Appeals Casework Portal \(https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/\)](https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/); or
- sending us enforcement appeal forms, which can be obtained by contacting us on the details above.

**You MUST make sure that we RECEIVE your appeal BEFORE the effective date on the enforcement notice.**

Please read the appeal guidance documents at <https://www.gov.uk/appeal-enforcement-notice/how-to-appeal> (<https://www.gov.uk/appeal-enforcement-notice/how-to-appeal>).

In exceptional circumstances you may give written notice of appeal by letter or email. You should include the name and contact details of the appellant(s) and either attach a copy of the Enforcement notice that you wish to appeal or state the following:

- the name of the local planning authority;
- the site address; and
- the effective date of the enforcement notice.

We MUST receive this BEFORE the effective date on the enforcement notice. This should immediately be followed by your completed appeal forms.

**IMPORTANT – THIS COMMUNICATION AFFECTS YOUR PROPERTY**

**SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (AS AMENDED BY THE SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL  
PLANNING AND COMPENSATION ACT 1991)**

**PLANNING CONTRAVENTION NOTICE**

130 NOV 2021

RECEIVED

TO: Mr Lee and Mrs Laura Pountain

**THIS NOTICE** is served by the Council because it appears to it that there may have been a breach of planning control within section 171A(1) of the above Act, at the land described below. It is served on you as a person who appears to be the owner or occupier of the land or has another interest in it, or who is carrying out operations in, on, over or under the land or is using it for any purpose. The Council requires you, in exercise of its powers under Section 171C(2) and (3), so far as you are able, to provide certain information about interests in, and activities, on the land.

**2. THE LAND TO WHICH THE NOTICE RELATES**

Land and premises at Meadow View Paradise Lane Slade Heath Staffordshire WV10 7NZ shown edged red on the attached plan.

**3. THE MATTERS WHICH APPEAR TO CONSTITUTE THE BREACH OF PLANNING CONTROL**

Without planning permission Without planning permission, the unauthorised construction of a dwelling shown purple and marked A on the attached plan.

Without planning permission, the unauthorised construction of an outbuilding shown green and marked B on the attached plan.

**4. WHAT YOU ARE REQUIRED TO DO**

Provide in writing the following information:

1. What is your full name (including any middle names) and full address of the property you reside at?

MEADOW VIEW  
PARADISE LANE  
WOLVERHAMPTON  
WV10 7NZ

2. What is your date of birth?

[REDACTED]

3. Are you the owner or do you rent the Land (Meadow View Paradise Lane Slade Heath Staffordshire WV10 7NZ) ?

OWNER

4. If you rent the Land please provide the full name(s) and address(s) of the person you rent the Land from?

N/A

5. How long have you resided at the Land?

FEB ~~2017~~ 2020

6. Does anyone else have an interest in the Land apart from the person(s) you have listed above? Please provide details of all other person(s) who have interest in this Land (include all owners, mortgagees, charges, lessees, licensees and any other person(s) with a right to the use of the Land for any purpose)?

NO

7. Who is currently living in the authorised dwelling house at Meadow View?

LEE POUNTAIN LAURA POUNTAIN

8. Provide a schedule of works being undertaken at the authorised dwelling house at Meadow View and an estimate of when works are likely to be completed (use a separate sheet as necessary).

PLANNING APPROVED ON YOUR WEBSITE

Building A shown in the approximate position marked on the attached plan

9. When did building work on building A commence?

MARCH 21

10. For what purpose did you construct building A?

YES

11. What is building A currently used for and when did this use commence?

LIVE IN WHAT WE DO MAIN HOUSE

12. Who occupies building A? Please give a full list of names for any adults and ages of any children.



13. Provide full floor plans of building A indicating the use of all rooms. The plans can be a best approximation of scale.

14. Are the following provided in building A?

- (i) Toilet ✓
- (ii) Bath/shower ✓
- (iii) Cooking facilities ✓
- (iv) Clothes washing facilities ✓

15. How are the following services (where applicable) supplied to building A and are these a separate supply or linked to the main house at Meadow View?

(i) Gas N/A

(ii) Electric

(iii) Water

(iv) Waste water/ effluent

16. Does building A have its own name/number and/or postal address?

NO

17. What bills or other post sent directly to building A?

NONE

18. Does anyone residing in building A use the authorised dwelling house at Meadow View for any purpose? If so state the purpose and frequency in an average week of the use(s)?

N/A

19. What do you intend to do with building A/ use it for once works are complete on the authorised property at Meadow View ?

TURN IT INTO CENTURY ROOM

YOU HAVE PLAN A ON DRAWING THERE IS NO BUILDING ON YOUR DRAWING THERE?

Building B shown in the approximate position marked on the attached plan

20. When did building work on building B commence?

MARCH 2020

21. For what purpose did you construct building B?

SHED TIMBER BUILT NOT EXCEED 4M IN HEIGHT PHOTOS CAN BE SUPPLIED

22. What is building B currently used for and when did this use commence?

SHED

23. What do you intend to do with building B/ use it for?

USE IT AS SHED

**Time within which the information must be provided:** within twenty-one days beginning with the day on which this notice is served on you (08 November 2021).

**5. OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS IN RESPONSE TO THE NOTICE**

If you wish to make an offer to apply for planning permission, or to stop carrying out any operations or activities, or to undertake remedial works; or to make any representations about this notice, the Council will consider them before the 21 day deadline (28 November 2021). If you wish to make representation this can be done in writing and directed to the officer dealing with the case (contact details of the officer can be found on the cover letter).

**6. WARNING**

It is an offence to fail, without reasonable excuse, to comply with any requirement

of this notice within twenty one days beginning with the day on which it was served on you. The maximum penalty on conviction of this offence is a fine of £1,000. Continuing failure to comply following a conviction will constitute a further offence.

It is also an offence knowingly or recklessly to give information, in response to this notice, which is false or misleading in a material particular when purporting to comply with the notice. The maximum penalty on conviction of this offence is a fine of £5,000.

Please sign below to confirm you have read and understood the warning of Section 6.

SIGNATURE:



DATE:

26-11-21

7. **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

If you fail to respond to this notice, the Council may take further action in respect of the suspected breach of planning control. In particular, they may issue an enforcement notice, under section 172 of the 1990 Act, requiring the breach, or any injury to amenity caused by it, to be remedied.

If the Council serves a stop notice, and or one or more temporary stop notices under sections 183 and 171E respectively of the 1990 Act, section 186(5)(b) of the 1990 Act provides that you should otherwise become entitled (under Section 186) to compensation for loss or damage attributable to that notice, no such compensation will be payable in respect of any loss or damage which could have been avoided had you given the Council the information required by this notice, or had you otherwise co-operated with the Council when responding to it.

Date: 16 September 2021

Signed:

Catherine Gutteridge

Team Manager – Planning Enforcement

South Staffordshire District Council  
Council Offices  
Wolverhampton Road  
Codsall  
WV8 1PX



**List of Persons and Interested Parties**

**Appeal Ref: APP/C3430/C/23/3324573**

**Enforcement Ref: 21/00260/UNDEV**

**Appeal by: Mr Lee Pountain**

**Site at: Meadow View Paradise Lane Slade Heath Wolverhampton WV10 7NZ**

---

**1 copy to the occupier**

Fordhouse Sidings Paradise Lane Slade Heath Wolverhampton WV10 7NZ  
Manor Bungalow Paradise Lane Slade Heath Wolverhampton WV10 7NZ  
Manor House Paradise Lane Slade Heath Wolverhampton WV10 7NZ  
Stone Cottage Paradise Lane Slade Heath Wolverhampton WV10 7NZ  
Paradise Cottage Paradise Lane Slade Heath Wolverhampton WV10 7NZ  
The Laurels Paradise Lane Slade Heath Wolverhampton WV10 7NZ  
Caravan Manor Farm Paradise Lane Slade Heath Wolverhampton WV10 7NZ  
Treats Limited Unit 1 Manor Farm Paradise Lane Slade Heath Wolverhampton WV10 7NZ  
Homestead Paradise Lane Slade Heath Wolverhampton WV10 7NZ  
The Maples Paradise Lane Slade Heath Wolverhampton WV10 7NZ  
Fairview Paradise Lane Slade Heath Wolverhampton WV10 7NZ  
Willows Paradise Lane Slade Heath Wolverhampton WV10 7NZ  
The Oaks Paradise Lane Slade Heath Wolverhampton WV10 7NZ

**1 copy to the Clerk to Brewood and Coven Parish Council**

The Clerk, The Council Office, 35 Stafford Street, Brewood, South, Staffordshire, ST19 9DX  
Email: [clerk@brewoodandcoven-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@brewoodandcoven-pc.gov.uk)

**1 copy to the Chairman/Vice-Chairman of the Council**

Councillor Meg Barrow  
Email: [m.barrow@sstaffs.gov.uk](mailto:m.barrow@sstaffs.gov.uk)

Councillor, Dan Kinsey  
Email: [d.kinsey@sstaffs.gov.uk](mailto:d.kinsey@sstaffs.gov.uk)

**1 copy to the Chairman/Vice-Chairman of the Planning Committee**

Councillor Mark Evans  
Email: [m.evans@sstaffs.gov.uk](mailto:m.evans@sstaffs.gov.uk)

Councillor Robert Cope  
Email: [r.cope@sstaffs.gov.uk](mailto:r.cope@sstaffs.gov.uk)

**1 copy to the following local member(s)**

Councillor Diane M Holmes  
Email: [d.holmes@sstaffs.gov.uk](mailto:d.holmes@sstaffs.gov.uk)

Councillor Wendy J Sutton  
Email: [w.sutton@sstaffs.gov.uk](mailto:w.sutton@sstaffs.gov.uk)

Councillor Susan Szalapski  
Email: [s.szalapski@sstaffs.gov.uk](mailto:s.szalapski@sstaffs.gov.uk)



The Occupier/Others

Phone: (01902) 696274  
Email: [appeals@sstaffs.gov.uk](mailto:appeals@sstaffs.gov.uk)  
Date: 4 August 2023

## TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 APPEAL UNDER SECTION 174

<b>Appellant's name:</b>	<b>Mr Lee Pountain</b>
<b>Site Address:</b>	<b>Meadow View, Paradise Lane, Slade Heath, Wolverhampton WV10 7NZ</b>
<b>Description of Breach:</b>	<b>Without planning permission, the construction of a brick built two storey residential dwelling house in the approximate position shaded blue of the plan attached to this notice.</b>
<b>Enforcement reference:</b>	<b>21/00260/UNDEV</b>
<b>Appeal reference:</b>	<b>APP/C3430/C/23/3324573</b>
<b>Appeal start date:</b>	<b>28 July 2023</b>

I refer to the above details. An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against an enforcement notice issued by South Staffordshire District Council on 19 May 2023.

### **The enforcement notice was issued for the following reasons:**

It appears to the Council that the breach of planning control on the Land has occurred within the last four years, and therefore is not immune from enforcement action.

The unauthorised development is located in an area of countryside and designated Green Belt to the east of the village of Coven. The land is also within a 15km radius Zone of Influence for the Cannock Chase SAC. The unauthorised development is the construction of a brick built two storey residential dwelling house set to the rear of the Land.

The unauthorised development is located within the designated Green Belt. Paragraphs 147 and 148 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2021 (NPPF) make clear that inappropriate development is by definition, harmful to the greenbelt and that 'very special circumstances' must exist which clearly outweigh any harm for development to be permitted. No 'very special circumstances' exist for the unauthorised development, and it is therefore inappropriate development contrary to policy GB1 Of the Core Strategy (2012) and the Green Belt and Open Countryside SPD (2014).

Paragraph 80 of the NPPF advises against development of isolated homes in the countryside subject to exceptions, none of which apply in this situation. Unjustified new dwellings in the countryside would set an undesirable precedent for ad-hoc and unrestricted residential development in the countryside of significant harm to the intrinsic rural character and contrary to Core policy 1 of the Core Strategy (2012).

The unauthorised development is in a highly visible location when viewed from the access road and from views from New Road. The siting to the rear of the property amounts to back land development and is in direct conflict with the landscape setting and respected settlement form of the residential dwellings in the area which follow a linear fashion and front directly onto the roads. It has brought a substantively more suburban feel to the otherwise rural area and appears alien and awkward in its setting of detriment to the otherwise relatively undeveloped rural character and appearance of the area.

The unauthorised development is sited immediately to the rear of the garden of the neighbouring properties where first floor windows face the garden and primary outdoor amenity space of the neighbouring site. Furthermore, the proximity of the unauthorised development to the boundary is overbearing, imposing, intrusive in its setting, and of detriment to the level of amenity reasonably anticipated for the neighbouring property. As a result, the unauthorised development is contrary to the guidance contained within Chapter 12 of the NPPF, Core Policies 3 and 4, and development policies EQ4, EQ9 and EQ11 of the Core Strategy, and the Council's Design Guide 2018.

The land is within 15km radius of the Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation (SAC) which is protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 and the NPPF at paragraph 182 makes clear that the presumption in favour of sustainable development does not apply where development is likely to have a significant effect on an SAC. No Habitat Regulations Assessment has been submitted or mitigation has been provided and based on the precautionary principle the Authority cannot be satisfied that that the new dwelling will not be likely lead directly or indirectly to have a significant adverse impact on the integrity of the Cannock Chase SAC contrary to, Core Policy 2, and development Policies EQ1 and EQ2, and the Cannock Chase SAC guidance document (2022).

Paragraph 8(c) of the NPPF highlights the need to improve biodiversity to achieve sustainable development. Strategic objective 4 and Core Policy 2 of the Core Strategy aims to protect, conserve, and enhance the diversity of wildlife and habitats. Further, the NPPF encourages that all new development should provide beneficial biodiversity features as part of good design and leave the natural environment in a measurably better state than it was beforehand. Paragraph 174 specifically seeks to conserve and enhance the natural environment by minimising any impacts and providing net gains for biodiversity. No consideration has been given to biodiversity on the site and no mitigation or compensation has been provided.

Given the substantial harm articulated above the Council do not consider that conditions could overcome the issues caused by the unauthorised development. The Council consider that planning permission should not be given, because planning conditions could not overcome these objections to the development.

**The enforcement notice requires the following steps to be taken:**

- i) Cease the use of the building in the approximate position shaded blue on the attached plan as a separate residential dwelling.
- ii) Remove the entire building in the approximate position shaded blue on the attached plan including the concrete slab and footings from the Land.
- iii) Remove all materials and debris resulting from compliance with ii) above from the Land.

**The appellant has appealed against the notice on the following grounds:**

**Ground (a)** – that planning permission should be granted for what is alleged in the notice.

The appeal will be determined on the basis of **written representations**. The procedure to be followed is set out in the Town and Country Planning (Enforcement) (Written Representations Procedure) (England) Regulations 2002.

If you wish to make comments, you can do so at <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/planning-inspectorate> If you do not have access to the internet, you can send **three** copies to:

Elaine Simpson  
The Planning Inspectorate  
Third Floor 3B  
Eagle Wing  
Temple Quay House  
2 The Square  
Bristol  
BS1 6PN

**All representations must be received by 8 September 2023.** Any representations submitted after the deadline will not usually be considered and will be returned. The Planning Inspectorate does not acknowledge representations. **All representations must quote the appeal reference.**

Please note that any representations you submit to the Planning Inspectorate will be copied to the appellant and this local planning authority and will be considered by the Inspector when determining the appeal.

If you submit comments and then subsequently wish to withdraw them, you should make this request to the Planning Inspectorate by the date above.

The appeal documents (including the decision when made) can be viewed online at [Enforcement Appeal Cases \(sstaffs.gov.uk\)](https://www.enforcementcases.gov.uk) by clicking on the relevant Enforcement appeal case.

You can get a copy of one of the Planning Inspectorate's "Guide to taking part in enforcement appeals" booklets free of charge from the Planning Portal at: [www.planningportal.gov.uk/pcs](http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/pcs) or from us.

When made, the decision will be published online at <https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk> and the Council website. Paper copies of the appeal decision can be obtained from the Council. Please be aware that there may be a copying fee.

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