



IMPORTANT - THIS COMMUNICATION AFFECTS YOUR PROPERTY

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
(as amended by the Planning and Compensation Act 1991)**

ENFORCEMENT NOTICE

MATERIAL CHANGE OF USE

ISSUED BY: Broxbourne Borough Council ("the Council")

1. THIS IS A FORMAL NOTICE 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) (a) 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 THE NOTICE RELATES

Land adjacent to 2 Robsons Close, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, EN8 9QT shown edged in red on the attached plan.

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

Without planning permission the change of use of amenity land to residential garden and erection of fence over 1metre in height

4. REASONS FOR ISSUING THIS NOTICE

It appears to the Council that the development took place within the last 10 years.

The area of amenity land has been enclosed with a close boarded fence with concrete posts. From the rear point of the amenity land the fence is approximately 1.8m high along 15m of the side of the site adjacent to the footpath. This fence then turns in 90 degrees to the side of the dwelling. The character of the area is medium density housing that is interspersed with amenity areas that provide a green break within the built environment. Front boundaries are generally low level, often with greenery behind them, and corner plots and grass verges soften the overall environment.

An application for planning permission was submitted in March 2023 to retain the fence and the change of use. This application (reference 07/23/0285/F) was refused on 25 May 2023 for the following reason:

1 The proposed change of use of amenity land for use as a residential garden through the erection of a 1.8m high fence has a detrimental impact on amenities enjoyed by

neighbouring dwellings and is harmful to local character which is contrary to Policies DSC1, DSC2 and EQ1 of the Local Plan (2018-2033).

The Council do not consider that planning conditions could overcome the objections to the development.

5. WHAT YOU ARE REQUIRED TO DO

- (i) In relation to the fence and gate:
 - a. Permanently remove the fence and gate, as indicated between points A and B and points B and C, from the land **OR**
 - b. Reduce the height of the fence and gate, as indicated between points A and B and points B and C, to no more than 1 metre above natural ground level
- (ii) Reduce the height of existing boundary treatments to no more than 2 metres above natural ground level by removing trellis and other additions
- (iii) Permanently cease the use of the land as residential garden
- (iv) Remove any resultant debris from the land

6. TIME FOR COMPLIANCE

Step (i) – 4 weeks from the date this Notice takes effect

Step (ii) – 4 weeks from the date this Notice takes effect


Step (iii) – 6 weeks from the date this Notice takes effect

Step (iv) – 8 weeks from the date this Notice takes effect

7. WHEN THIS NOTICE TAKES EFFECT

This notice takes effect on 14th July 2023 unless an appeal is made against it beforehand.

Date: 14th June 2023

Signed: 

Dr Alison Knight
Director of Place
Borough of Broxbourne
Bishops College, Churchgate, Cheshunt, EN8 9XE

WHO THIS ENFORCEMENT NOTICE IS SERVED ON:

- Mark Anthony Smithson of 2 Robsons Close, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, EN8 9QT
- Sylvia Maria Smithson of 2 Robsons Close, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, EN8 9QT
- HSBC UK Bank PLC (Co. Regn. No. 09928412) of Customer Service Centre, BX8 4HB
- HSBC UK Bank PLC (Co. Regn. No. 09928412) of 1 Centenary Square, Birmingham, B1 1HQ

ANNEXE

As required by Regulation 5 of the Town and Country Planning (Enforcement Notices and Appeals) (England) Regulations 2002 you are provided with the following information:

- Annexe A: A copy of sections 171A, 171B, 172 to 177 of the Town and Country Planning Act
- Annexe B: Details of information you must submit if you appeal
- Annexe C: List of the names and addresses of the persons on whom a copy of the Enforcement Notice was served
- Annexe D: Planning Inspectorate information sheet

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 <http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/uploads/pins/eninfosheet.pdf>

If you appeal ground (a) the fee you must pay is £924 which is twice the fee that would have been paid had you submitted a planning application. If you have submitted an application for the development described in this Notice and paid the fee in the last 12 months you may be exempt from paying a fee.

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.

Annexe A: copy of sections 171A, 171B, 172 to 177 of the Town and 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);
 - (aa) the issue of an enforcement warning notice (defined in section 173ZA); 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.

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 dwellinghouse, no enforcement action may be taken after the end of the period of four years beginning with the date of the breach.

(2A) There is no restriction on when enforcement action may be taken in relation to a breach of planning control in respect of relevant demolition (within the meaning of section 196D).]

(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.

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.

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.

(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.

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.

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;
- (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.

(2C)Where any breach of planning control constituted by the matters stated in the notice relates to relevant demolition (within the meaning of section 196D), an appeal may also be brought on the grounds that—

- (a)the relevant demolition was urgently necessary in the interests of safety or health;
- (b)it was not practicable to secure safety or health by works of repair or works for affording temporary support or shelter; and
- (c)the relevant demolition was the minimum measure necessary.】

(2D)An appeal against an enforcement notice may not be brought on the ground that planning permission ought to be granted in respect of a breach of planning control constituted by a matter stated in the notice, as specified in subsection (2)(a), if—

- (a)the land to which the enforcement notice relates is in Wales, and
- (b)the enforcement notice was issued after a decision to refuse planning permission for a related development was upheld on an appeal under section 78 (and for this purpose development is “related” if granting planning permission for it would involve granting planning permission in respect of the matter concerned).

(2E)An appeal may not be brought on the ground that a condition or limitation ought to be discharged, as specified in subsection (2)(a), if—

- (a)the land to which the enforcement notice relates is in Wales, and
- (b)the enforcement notice was issued after a decision to grant planning permission subject to the condition or limitation was upheld on an appeal under section 78.

(2F)For the purposes of subsections (2D) and (2E), references to a decision that has been upheld on an appeal include references to a decision in respect of which—

- (a)the Welsh Ministers have, under section 79(6), declined to determine an appeal or to proceed with the determination of an appeal;
- (b)an appeal has been dismissed under section 79(6A).

(3)An appeal under this section shall be made

(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 properly 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

(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.

(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.; and

(b) continues so to occupy the land when the appeal is brought.

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.

(3B) Subsection (3) does not apply to an appeal against an enforcement notice issued by a local planning authority in Wales.

(4) Where an appeal is brought under section 174 the enforcement notice shall subject to any order under section 289(4A) 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.

(7) Subsection (5) of section 250 of the Local Government Act 1972 (which authorises a Minister holding an inquiry under that section to make orders with respect to the costs of the parties) shall apply in relation to any proceedings in England before the Secretary of State on an appeal under section 174 as if those proceedings were an inquiry held by the Secretary of State under section 250.

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.

(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 (d) of section 175(1) within the prescribed period.

(4) If section 175(3) would otherwise apply and the Secretary of State proposes to dismiss an appeal under paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of this section 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.

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;
- (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 191.

(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

(1C) Subsection (1)(a) applies only if the statement under section 174(4) specifies the ground mentioned in section 174(2)(a).

(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.

(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.

(4A)Section 100ZA (which makes provision about restrictions on the power to impose conditions or limitations on a grant of planning permission in relation to land in England) applies in relation to conditions substituted under subsection (4) as it applies in relation to conditions imposed on a grant of planning permission to develop land which is granted on an application made under Part 3.

(5) Where—

(a) an appeal against an enforcement notice is brought under section 174, and

(b) 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.

(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.

(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.

Annexe B: Details of information you must submit if you appeal

As per Regulation 5 (b) of the Town and Country Planning (Enforcement Notices and Appeals) (England) Regulations 2002 you are advised that you:

“must submit to the Secretary of State, either when giving notice of appeal or within 14 days from the date on which the Secretary of State sends him a notice so requiring him, a statement in writing specifying the grounds on which he is appealing against the enforcement notice and stating briefly the facts on which he proposes to rely in support of each of those grounds”.

Annexe C: List of the names and addresses of the persons on whom a copy of the Enforcement Notice was served

- Mark Anthony Smithson of 2 Robsons Close, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, EN8 9QT
- Sylvia Maria Smithson of 2 Robsons Close, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, EN8 9QT
- HSBC UK Bank PLC (Co. Regn. No. 09928412) of Customer Service Centre, BX8 4HB
- HSBC UK Bank PLC (Co. Regn. No. 09928412) of 1 Centenary Square, Birmingham, B1 1HQ

Annexe D: Planning Inspectorate Information Sheet

Customer Support Team
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN
Direct Line: 0303 444 5000
Email: enquiries@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

THIS IS IMPORTANT

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

- online at the [Appeals Casework Portal](#); 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>.

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.

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 <http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/uploads/pins/eninfosheet.pdf>

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.



**BOROUGH OF
BROXBOURNE**
www.broxbourne.gov.uk

Enforcement Plan - ENF/23/0032
2 Robson Close, Cheshunt, Herts

S.Bates / L.White Scale: 1: 0,500

Date: 29 May 2023

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