## Quarter 2 Report on Complaints and Freedom of Information and Environmental Information Regulations Enquiries

### <u>Complaints</u>

| Summary of Complaints in YTD  | Q1   | Q2  | Q3 | Q4 | YTD | 2020/21<br>Target |
|---|------|-----|----|----|-----|-------------------|
| Number of Complaints Received in Quarter:   | 1    | 2   |    |    | 3   | <20               |
| Percentage of complaints dealt with in accordance with agreed deadline of 15 working days | 100% | 50% |    |    |     | 100%              |
| Number of Complaints in Quarter regarding an Authority Member:                            | 1    | 0   |    |    | 1   | -                 |

#### **Complaints Received**

| Complaint<br>Ref, Date<br>Made and<br>Stage | Service and Reason for<br>Complaint   | Date<br>Response<br>Sent   | Outcome  | Any Change in<br>Processes/Practices as<br>a Result of Complaint<br>Investigation   |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| C.479<br>11/09/20<br>Stage One              | Visitor Experience Development<br>Complaint regarding actions of an<br>Authority officer at a Visitor Centre<br>with regard to face-covering rules. | 05/10/20<br>2 working days<br>after the 15<br>working day<br>deadline. | Apologised for delay in responding. Agreed that an<br>unacceptable level of service was experienced and not the<br>welcome that is normally provided to all visitors. Explained<br>have endeavoured to adapt to the changing Government<br>guidance in relation to Covid-19, including the requirement<br>for face coverings, but in this instance it seems that the<br>member of staff had not been properly briefed regarding<br>exemptions. Relevant guidance on the face-covering rules<br>will be circulated to all staff in visitor-facing roles and the<br>feedback from the complaint will be discussed with the<br>individual officer. Apologised for the distress and<br>inconvenience caused. | Team managers to<br>circulate the relevant<br>guidance to all staff in<br>visitor-facing roles to<br>ensure that they<br>understand the need for<br>some exemptions to the<br>face-covering rule. |

| Complaint<br>Ref, Date<br>Made and<br>Stage | Service and Reason for<br>Complaint   | Date<br>Response<br>Sent                          | Outcome  | Any Change in<br>Processes/Practices as<br>a Result of Complaint<br>Investigation  |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| C.480<br>21/09/20<br>Stage One              | <ul> <li>Visitor Experience Development</li> <li>Complaint alleging lack of Covid</li> <li>19 procedures at North Lees</li> <li>Campsite including: <ul> <li>Complainant ensured their group complied with the rule of 6 persons only in a group, others on site did not seem to be adhering to this</li> <li>No warden on site</li> <li>Lack of cleaning of facilities on site and no hand sanitiser provided</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | 06/10/20<br>Within 15<br>working day<br>deadline. | Acknowledged that Complainant did not enjoy their stay at<br>the campsite but stated that the Authority has endeavoured<br>to reopen the site in a safe manner under very difficult<br>conditions. Explained that bookings for groups larger than 6<br>are not permitted unless they fall under the exemption<br>category of "organised indoor and outdoor sports, physical<br>activity or exercise classes". Any groups larger than 6 that<br>had booked prior to the new rules coming into effect had<br>cancelled or agreed to keep in groups of under 6 whilst on<br>site. The site does not have the facilities to accommodate a<br>warden 24 hours a day but there was a warden was on site<br>morning and evening. The standard of operation and<br>cleaning has been approved by the Authority's H&S advisor.<br>Confirmed that the washrooms and washing up area are<br>thoroughly cleaned every morning and spot cleaned every<br>evening, including wiping down all frequent touch points.<br>Hand sanitiser is not provided as there are handwashing<br>facilities available. The site has a basic level of provision<br>but the Covid safety measures in place are satisfactory. Will<br>ask Ranger at the site to ensure that the risk assessment is<br>up to date and that all of the measures set out have been<br>put in place. | Ranger at the site to<br>ensure that the risk<br>assessment is up to date<br>and that all of the<br>measures set out have<br>been put in place |

## Update on Complaints Reported in Previous Quarters

| Complaint<br>Ref, Date<br>Made and<br>Stage                              | Service and Reason for<br>Complaint  | Date<br>Response<br>Sent  | Outcome   | Any Change in<br>Processes/Practices as<br>a Result of Complaint<br>Investigation |
|--|--|---|---|---|
| C.464<br>24/02/20<br>Ombudsman<br>(Receipt<br>reported in<br>Q1 2020-21) | Development Management<br>Complaint about the Authority's<br>handling of planning matters<br>related to Complainant's planning<br>application.                 | Response to<br>initial enquiry<br>sent 23/03/20<br>Within<br>Ombudsman's<br>deadline. | <ul> <li>Ombudsman's Decision: The Ombudsman found no fault by the Authority.</li> <li>There were parts of the complaint the Ombudsman did not investigate:</li> <li>Late complaints are when someone takes more than 12 months to complain about something an authority has done. The issues raised about planning applications between 2011 and 2019 occurred too long ago for investigation, the investigation was limited to the issues raised from 2019.</li> <li>The issues raised about the recent planning application in 2020 occurred after the Complainant brought this complaint to the Ombudsman. The Complainant has not raised these with the Authority as a formal complaint. The law requires the Ombudsman to give authorities an opportunity to respond to complaints before it becomes involved. For this reason the concerns about the 2020 planning process were not investigated.</li> </ul> | None required.  |
| C467<br>06/02/20<br>Ombudsman<br>(Stage One<br>reported in               | Development Management<br>Complaint regarding lack of<br>response and action with regard to<br>enforcement complaints relating to<br>a public house including: | Response to<br>initial enquiry<br>sent 07/02/20<br>Within<br>Ombudsman                | Ombudsman's decision: The Ombudsman found no fault by the Authority.  | None required.  |

Appendix 3

| Q2 and      | 1)       | Erection of stainless steel  | deadline        |
|-------------|----------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Stage Two   |          | extractor fan                |                 |
| reported in | 2)       | Erection of flag pole        | Response to     |
| Q3 2019-20  | 3)       | Erection of marquee and      | further enquiry |
| Receipt of  |          | associated noise and         | sent 10/07/20   |
| Ombudsman   |          | disturbance in a             |                 |
| reported in |          | conservation area            | Within          |
| Q1 2020-21) | 4)       | Parking of a HGV on site     | Ombudsman       |
|             |          | -                            | deadline        |
|             | Comp     | lainant also requested clear |                 |
|             | clarific | ation of whether or not the  |                 |
|             | marqu    | lee required planning        |                 |
|             | permis   |                              |                 |
|             | •        |                              |                 |

# Quarter 2 report on Freedom of Information (FOI) and Environment Information Regulation Enquiries (EIR)

| Quarter                  | No. of FOI Enquiries<br>dealt with | No. of EIR Enquiries<br>dealt with | No. of Enquiries dealt within time (20 days) | No. of late Enquiry<br>responses | No. of Enquiries still<br>being processed | No. of referrals to the<br>Information<br>Commissioner |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|---|--|
| Q1                       | 4                                  | 5                                  | 8  | 1                                | 3   | 0  |
| Q2                       | 7                                  | 11                                 | 18   | 0                                | 2   | 0  |
| Q3                       |                                    |                                    |  |                                  |   |  |
| Q4                       |                                    |                                    |  |                                  |   |  |
| Year end<br>(cumulative) | 11                                 | 16                                 | 26   | 1                                | 3   | 0  |