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Report

Report subject: Land at the Old Coach House, East Grimstead.

Report to: Southern Area Committee.

Date: 15th January 2009

Author: Stephen Hawkins, Principal Planning Officer (Enforcement).

Report Summary:

Report from Principal Planning Officer (Enforcement) concerning the above site.

Background:

Members have requested a written report updating them on progress in the above planning enforcement case.

Current situation:

It had been intended to bring a full report to this meeting and for Members to visit the site. However, at the time of writing (mid –December), it is understood from Housing that a Council property which *could* meet Mr. and Mrs. Lomax's search criteria has just become available.

Members will recall that back in August 2008, Mr. and Mrs. Lomax gave a written undertaking to the Council to accept the first suitable offer of alternative accommodation, to be agreed by an independent Occupational Therapist.

At the time of writing, the Council and Mr. and Mrs. Lomax are in therefore the process of jointly instructing an independent Occupational Therapist to inspect the property and determine its suitability, to fulfil the terms of the undertaking.

It is also expected that a reasonable timetable for allowing the Occupational Therapist to inspect the property, make a considered report and for the consideration of suitability in the light of (amongst other things), any works required to adapt the property to meet Mr. Lomax's needs, will be agreed. This is to ensure that prompt



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progress is made towards compliance with the Enforcement Notice and that a Council property is not being kept empty any longer than is necessary.

It is anticipated that more information will be able to be shared with Members by the time of the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: That Members note the report.

Implications:

- **Financial: None directly arising from this report.**
- **Legal: Detailed in the report.**
- **Human Rights: Detailed in the report.**
- **Environmental implications: Detailed in the report.**
- **Council's Core Values: Efficient service; fairness and equality.**
- **Wards Affected: Alderbury & Whiteparish.**

