

Verderers of the New Forest

Statement of Practice - Responding to presentments

This document is an addendum to the Verderers Regulations, but does not form part of them.

The Verderers receive presentments on a variety of topics. These are usually made in Open Court¹. Depending on the content and nature the Verderers respond in a number of different ways. The purpose of this statement of practice is to set out how the Verderers will normally respond to different types of presentments.

Save for presentments which fall into one of the categories below, the Verderers will consider the presentment and respond by way of announcement at their next Court. The majority of presentments received are responded to in this way.

1. *Matters which are contentious or where the Verderers' consent is required under an Act of Parliament:* In accordance with regulation 7, the Verderers will not make any decision on such a presentment until after the succeeding public meeting of the Court in order that any person may have the opportunity of making a response expressing support or opposition to the presentment.
2. *Factual queries:* presentments which raises a straightforward factual query maybe responded to forthwith or by subsequent email or letter. Any such response will be noted in the Court's minutes.
3. *Urgent:* if an urgent response is required and the application does not fall within 1 above, the Court will respond as soon as practicable. The response will be noted, in the minutes.
4. *Forestry England:* presentments often raise matters which require a response from Forestry England. When the Deputy Surveyor is able to advise the Court, on the day in committee, of his likely response, that will be included in the minutes. Forestry England will then respond direct to the maker of the presentment. An announcement may be made in the next Open Court by the Official Verderer

Nothing in this Statement of Practice alters the provisions of the Verderers' Regulations which remain in full force and effect.

21st January 2021

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The Queen's House
Lyndhurst
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¹ During the restrictions imposed as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic (2020-2021) it has not been possible to hold Open Courts and presentments have been received by letter or email and considered in by the Court sitting in Committee.