

**Public Summary of Items considered "in private"
at the Special meeting of the Authority
on 18 October 2018**

LGO Report – case number 17007580

Ian Nicholls, Head of Corporate Services summarised the main findings of the LGO report (case number 17007580) and the associated timeline of key dates.

The LGO report summarised its investigation into a complaint that the Authority had wrongly charged a householder for costs associated with planning enforcement action when, the complainant alleged, the law did not allow it to do so.

The LGO report is publically available via their website.

The Chair commented that he had responded positively to media enquiries on the issue and explained the Authority's position.

It was noted that the Authority has suspended its charging scheme, refunded all monies received under the scheme, and apologised to the complainant for not initially explaining the basis for the charge.

Members/Officers held quite a lengthy discussion on the item, with Members commenting that they stood by decisions previously made as they consider them to be correct, that the interest from the media had been helpful in terms of making the case for enforcement charging, that Enforcement Charging as a subject should be raised at relevant future planning meetings officers may have such as Chief Planning Officers, RTPI and meetings with MHCLG representatives, and Members requested an update on the specific planning enforcement issue at a later meeting.