

**Question on Notice
No. 288
Asked on Tuesday, 6 March 2007**

MR FINN asked the Minister for Local Government, Planning and Sport (MR FRASER) –

QUESTION:

Will he outline how his department is addressing the problem of developers who flagrantly breach conditions outlined in approved development applications?

ANSWER:

On 4 March 2007 I announced that the Department of Local Government, Planning, Sport and Recreation were investigating means of enhancing the power of Councils to fine rogue developers.

Previously, Councils had the power only to institute potentially costly and time-consuming court proceedings to address even the smallest development offences.

As a first step towards addressing this problem, I have proposed a new fines scheme which includes Penalty Infringement Notices (PINs), giving local councils the power to issue fines of \$750 to individuals and \$3,750 for organisations.

Under this new system, councils will be able to immediately penalise minor breaches while avoiding time-consuming and costly court proceedings.

I believe PINs will enable local councils to provide a direct and immediate deterrent to both individuals and companies engaging in unsanctioned development work.