Licence to Occupy

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What is a Licence to Occupy?

- Allows the licensee to maintain council owned amenity land.
- Requires the licensee to:
 - maintain the landscape to standard
 - indemnify the Council against claims
 - seek approval for any changes to the layout
- Does not give any proprietary rights to the land



To occupy or to cultivate?

Licence to Occupy

- SBC land only
- No charge
- Approx. 20 received each year

Licence to Cultivate

- HCC land only
- Admin charge
- Managed by SBC



Current Process





Issues

- Information not available up front for residents on details they are required to provide
- Unresponsive and bureaucratic process
- Discourages volunteering
- Not resident focussed & counter intuitive to a cooperative approach
- No dedicated contact point



Proposed Process





Process Improvement & Review

- Full information and terms and conditions on Council's web pages
- Dynamic consultation & reduced processing time (4 to 6 weeks as opposed to 3 to 4 months)
- Pragmatic consideration of application e.g. allow works on non/low-risk items whilst application processed
- Creation of new, user-friendly, documentation
- Environmental Development team to manage future applications
- Removal of need to see neighbouring deed of ownership

Looking Ahead

- Promotion of Licence to Occupy opportunities
- Opportunities for whole process to be delivered electronically

