



PUBLIC PETITION NO.

PE01465

Name of petitioner

Anatoliusz Ivanov

Petition title

Maintenance of vacant land in private ownership

Petition summary

Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to put legislation in place to enable local authorities to force owners of vacant plots of land within towns, including former green belt land and previously developed areas, to maintain and keep these plots of land in a manner befitting the local community.

Action taken to resolve issues of concern before submitting the petition

For over ten years I have been trying to get Falkirk Council, via my local councillors, to make landowners responsible for the upkeep of plots of land they own which have become so overgrown with vegetation that it is not only derimental to adjacent properties but also presents an eyesore for the community. Falkirk Council have tried on many occasions to get these landowners to tidy up their land but are unable to do anything as they have no power to enforce this.

While pursuing this issue I discovered that this situation is not just a local issue but is prevalent throughout the country and with this being a national problem I decided to involve the Scottish Parliament by contacting my MSP, Mark Griffin.

After much investigation, Mark informed me that there is nothing in place to enforce landlords or landowners to maintain their land in a manner acceptable to either adjacent neighbours or the local community. There is legislation which covers rubbish such as fly tipping but nothing to cover neglected land.

Without any legislation in place these landowners are just spoiling the landscape within local communities.

Petition background information

These plots of land, some of which were originally created by the developers of housing estates, were intended as children's play areas or as visually pleasing areas to enhance the neighbourhood. Other plots include land which had previously been developed areas but have since become vacant and are now just an eyesore on the community.

Through time these plots of land have been sold and re-sold by speculators and because these plots are either unsuitable for building development or have been refused planning permission for development they have been badly neglected and

become a blot on the landscape.

Many of these plots of land are not just an eyesore but a breeding ground for vermin and a waste ground which some people regard as rubbish tips and dog toilets.

Speaking for my own local area, the residents of the town have been trying for years to find a solution without any success. Without any legal requirement in place, these landowners simply refuse to do anything about the current situation.

Unique web address

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/GettingInvolved/Petitions/vacantland>

Related information for petition

Do you wish your petition to be hosted on the Parliament's website to collect signatures online?

NO

How many signatures have you collected so far?

0

Closing date for collecting signatures online

N/A

Comments to stimulate online discussion