Paper Petition Details

111 Shaggy Calf Lane

We the residents of Shaggy Calf Lane and the surrounding area strongly object to the illegal activities of car repairs and car paint spraying performed at a privately owned house at property no. 111 Shaggy Calf Lane. This causes noise and foul paint spray fumes in the atmosphere and causes a lot of problems. Further occupant is causing parking problems for repair of cars and sale of cars. We the undersigned request the local authority to take immediate action to stop these activities.

This petition was received on 29th March 2012.

This petition was passed to the South Team Leader Neighbourhood Enforcement on 29th March 2012.

This petition was responded to on 22nd May 2012 by the Technical Enforcement Officer.

Final Results	
Number of Signatures	43

Council Response

The Neighbourhood Enforcement Team have observed that vehicles are being sold from 111 Shaggy Calf Lane and have written to the occupier to arrange access to establish that statutory nuisance from noise or paint fumes does not affect adjacent premises.

The Council's Planning Enforcement Team will be advised should it appear that there may be a material change in use at the premises that may require planning approval.

The Neighbourhood Enforcement Team investigate and take enforcement action using nuisance legislation and whilst there is no simple definition of a Statutory Nuisance, be it caused by noise, smoke, smell, dust, odour/fume, accumulation, light, insects etc, it needs to pose a threat to health or to have a significant effect on a person at their premises and must therefore be more than just an annoyance or irritation. How we decide what is a nuisance is based on available evidence and taking into account: Intensity – some measure of how big or how severe a problem is; Duration – the length of time of each incident, and; Frequency – how regular an incident occurs

To assist Officers in making an assessment as to whether a nuisance exists, we use diary sheets, as previously provided. If the situation does not improve, please return the completed diary sheets so that we can consider if further action is possible. Should you have another neighbour whom is also affected by the noise, please suggest that they contact the Council, as where there is more than one complainant and the evidence is corroborated, the Council would be in a stronger position to take action.

If the problem has ceased or the diary sheets are not returned within 6 weeks, no further action will be taken. However, you are welcome to make a new complaint should the problem recur.

With regard to car repairs and sales, this type of business operation is normally investigated by Trading Standards and I understand that they have previously investigated and concluded that such small scale activity did not warrant any further action at that time. However, if you consider that there has been a change in circumstances, please contact Trading Standards on 01753 875255 or contact the council via the Slough Borough Council website www.slough.gov.uk

Similarly, I believe that the Planning Enforcement Team is aware of this property and have investigated and also concluded that such small scale activity would not require a formal application for change of use. If there has been an increase in activity, please contact the Planning Enforcement Team on 01753 875854 or email planningenforcement@slough.gov.uk

I trust that this is of some assistance and resolves your enquiry.