



Report to Council

Department: Office of the CAO
Division: Legal and Legislative Services
Date: March 2, 2026
Prepared by: Mike Diemer – By-law/Property Standards Officer
Report Number: Legal and Legislative Services-2026-01
Subject: Bi-Annual By-Law Report – July 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025
Number of Pages: 6

Recommendation(s)

That Legal and Legislative Services-2026-01 entitled Bi-Annual By-Law Report – July 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025 prepared by Mike Diemer, By-law/Property Standards Officer dated March 2, 2026 be received.

Purpose

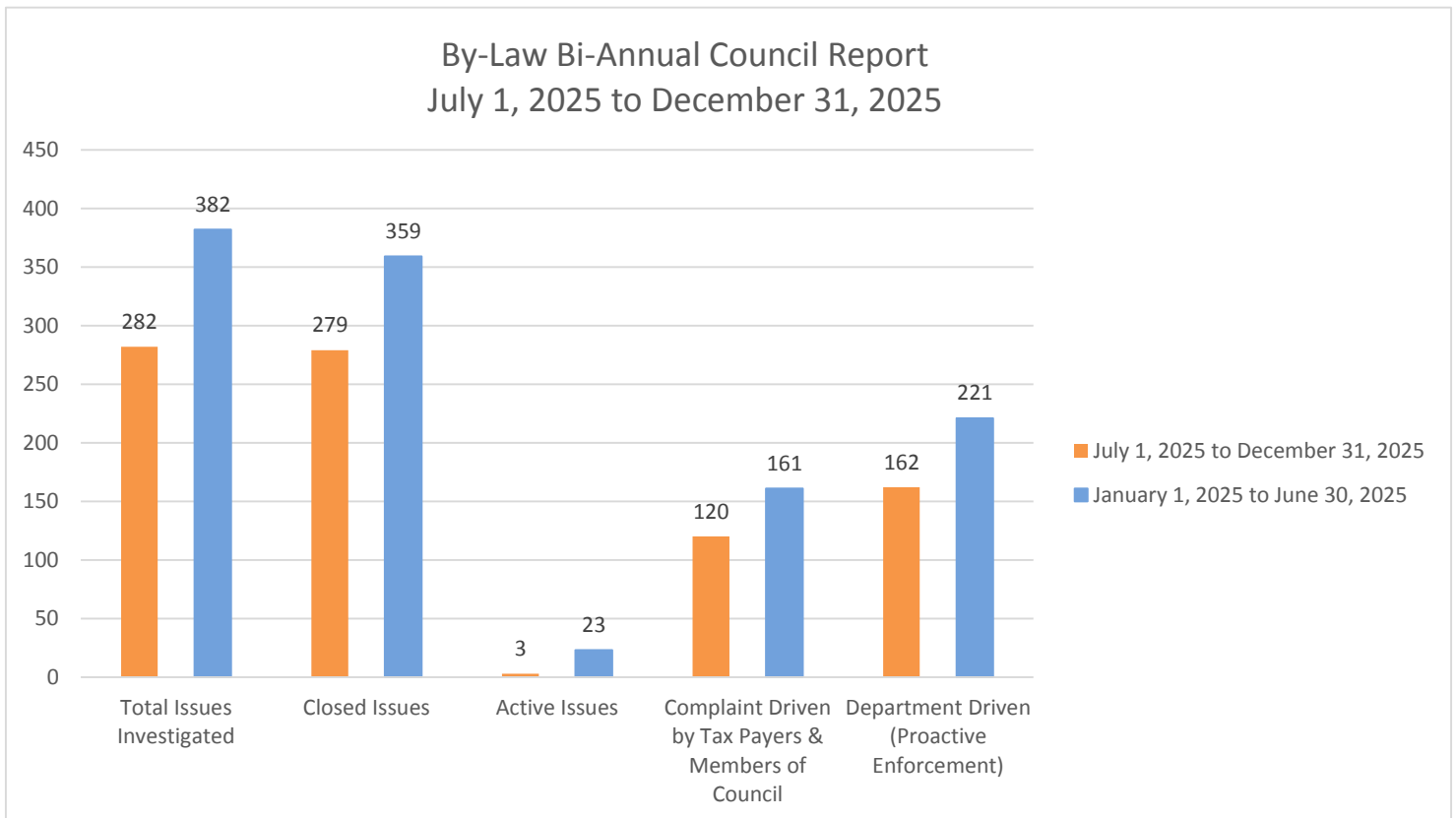
To provide Council with a report illustrating the enforcement conducted among various By-Law infractions from July 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025.

Background and Discussion

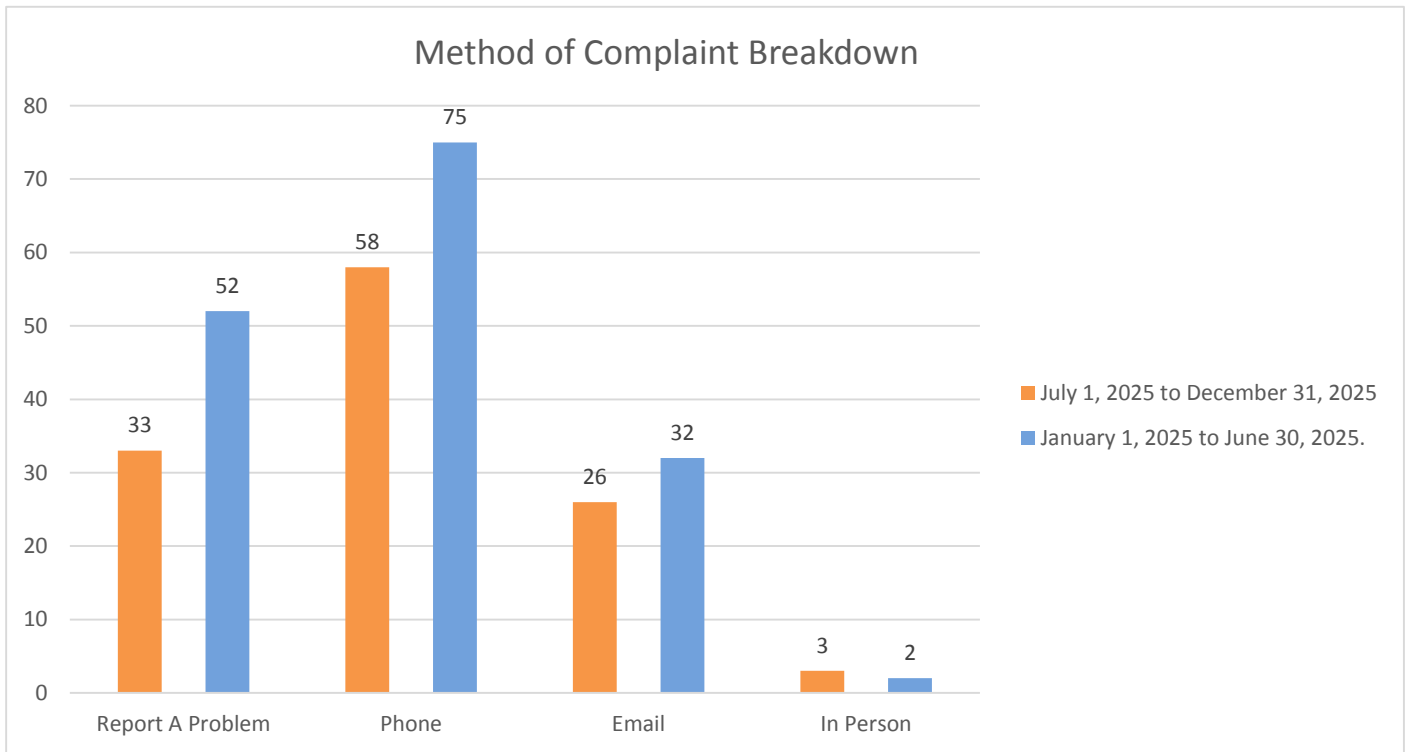
The purpose of this report is to illustrate the enforcement conducted with regard to the various municipal By-Laws of the Town between July 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025. The By-Law team remains uniform in its enforcement process from the

beginning stage of voluntary compliance to issuing notices of violation and in cases of continued non-compliance, serving owners with Municipal Work Orders and/or Provincial Offence Act (P.O.A) charges.

By-Law Enforcement has conducted investigations on Residential, Agricultural, and Commercial properties throughout the Municipality as depicted in the chart below. A total of 282 potential violations were investigated from July 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025. Of the 282 potential violations, 120 were based on complaints received from members of the public. The additional 162 issues were investigated proactively. Of the 282 issues, 279 have been resolved and 3 remain actively investigated. For comparison purposes, the prior 6 month period from January 1, 2025 to June 30, 2025 has been included in the chart below, as represented by the blue bars. The orange bars represent the statistics for the 6 month period, beginning July 1, 2025.

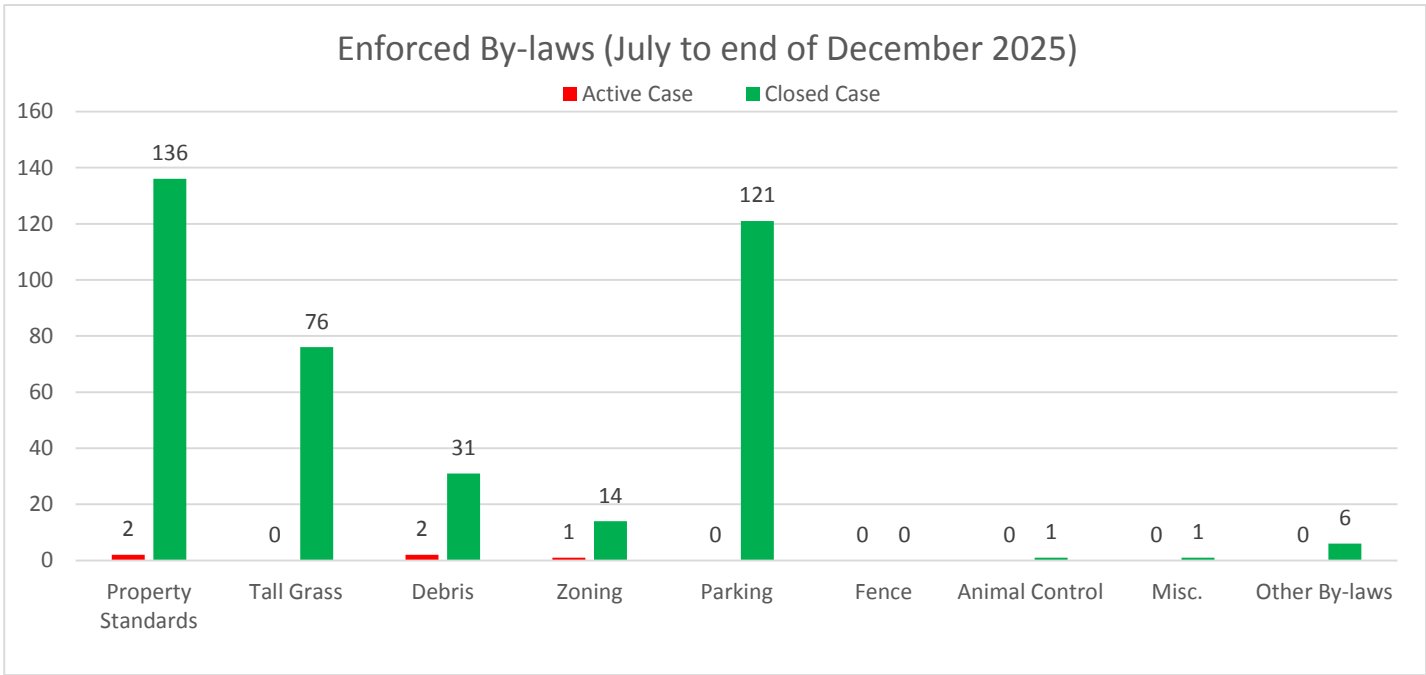


The following chart shows a detailed breakdown of how the 120 complaints have been received. During this 6 month period, 33 complaints were received through the “Report a Problem” platform, 58 were received by phone, 26 were received by e-mail and 3 were submitted in person.



By-Law Enforcement

The red bars depict active cases and the green bars depict cases which were resolved to the satisfaction of By-Law Enforcement standards for the 6 month period, beginning July 1, 2025. The By-Laws shown in the chart below depict the most reported violations.



Of the 282 investigated cases, 136 relate to the Town’s Property Standards By-Law 936. Property Standards issues have a wide range; however, the main offences consist of tall grass/weeds and exterior property debris. As shown in the chart above, tall grass complaints are received in high quantity and due to Town policy, Work Orders do not need to be issued since By-Law Enforcement can remedy the violation without delay. Debris violations can take more time to resolve due to Work Order timeframes, Appeals and Property Standards Committee (a.k.a. Appeals Committee) extensions which postpone direct action from By-Law Enforcement.

Finally, there were no Short-Term Rental By-Law infractions issued during the for the 6 month period, beginning July 1, 2025. Although, as the summer approaches, we may see charges being issued.

As always, the public is encouraged to use the Town’s “Report a Problem” online forms to submit complaints for investigation and documentation, which can be or found at: <https://www.essex.ca/en/live/report-a-problem.aspx> or through the By-Law Division email at: Bylaw@essex.ca

Financial Impact

N/A

Consultations

Cory Simard, Manager, Legal, Licensing & Enforcement

Joe Malandrucolo, Director, Legal & Legislative Services/Clerk

Link to Strategic Priorities

- Embrace asset management best practices to build, maintain, and continuously improve our municipally owned infrastructure.
- Leverage our Town's competitive advantages to promote jobs and economic investment.
- Take care of our natural environment and strengthen the sense of belonging to everyone who makes Essex "home".
- Deliver friendly customer service in an efficient, effective, and transparent manner while providing an exceptional working environment for our employees.
- Build corporate-level and community-level climate resilience through community engagement and partnership and corporate objectives.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Bi-Annual By-law Report - July 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Feb 25, 2026

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

No Signature found

Cory Simard, Manager, Legal, Licensing and Enforcement - Feb 23, 2026 - 1:52 PM



Joseph Malandruccolo, Director, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk - Feb 24, 2026 - 3:29 PM



Kate Giurissevich, Chief Administrative Officer - Feb 25, 2026 - 10:14 AM