

<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>Development Management Monthly Statistical Report.</b>
<b>Committee Report Submitted To:</b>	<b>Planning Committee</b>
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>25 August 2021</b>
<b>For Decision or For Information</b>	<b>For Information</b>

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)</b>	
Strategic Theme	Cohesive Leadership
Outcome	Council has agreed policies and procedures and decision making is consistent with them
Lead Officer	Head of Planning

<b>Budgetary Considerations</b>	
Cost of Proposal	Nil
Included in Current Year Estimates	
Capital/Revenue	
Code	
Staffing Costs	

<b>Screening Requirements</b>	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	N/A	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	N/A	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	N/A	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	N/A	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	N/A	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	N/A	Date:

## 1.0 Background

- 1.1 The “Protocol for the Operation of the Planning Committee’ sets out the requirement to provide monthly updates on the number of planning applications received and decided
- 1.2 The Northern Ireland Planning Monitoring Framework sets out the reporting arrangements to the Department of Infrastructure. DfI’s Analysis, Statistics and Research Branch (ASRB) publishes the official statistics on a quarterly and annual basis. The Framework includes the three statutory planning indicators in addition to new non-statutory indicators.
- 1.3 This Monthly Statistical Report provides Members with unvalidated statistics in relation to how Council’s Planning Department and Committee are performing against the Framework indicators.

## 2.0 Details

- 2.1 A list of planning applications received and decided by Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council for June 2021 is available on the Council’s website at the link below:

<https://www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk/live/planning/schedule-of-applications>

Please note that Pre-Application Discussions; Certificates of Lawful Development – Proposed or Existing; Discharge of Conditions and Non-Material Changes, have been excluded from the reports to correspond with official validated statistics published by DfI.

- 2.2 *Indicator 1: average processing time taken to determine major applications*  
*Statutory Target – major applications processed from date valid to decision or withdrawal within an average of 30 weeks*

Table 1 below details the number of Major planning applications received and decided, as well as the average processing times. Please note that these figures are unvalidated statistics. No major applications have been received this year as yet compared to 2 for the same period in the previous year. 6 Major applications issued year to date, an increase in 5 compared to the same period last year with an increase of 12.8 weeks average processing times.

**Table 1 Indicator 1: Processing Major applications**

Major applications (target of 30 weeks)				
2021/22	Number received	Number decided/ withdrawn	Average processing time (weeks)	% of cases processed within 30 weeks
April	0	1	38.4	0%
May	0	0	-	0%
June	0	5	114.8	0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>83.6 weeks</b>	<b>0%</b>

Source: Unvalidated Statistics.

**2.3** *Indicator 2: average processing time taken to determine local applications*  
Statutory Target – local applications processed from date valid to decision or withdrawal within an average of 15 weeks

Table 2 below details the number of Local planning applications received and decided as well as the average processing times. Please note these figures are unvalidated statistics.

**Table 2 Indicator 2: Processing Local Applications**

Local applications (target of 15 weeks)				
2021/22	Number received	Number decided/ withdrawn	Average processing time (weeks)	% of cases processed within 15 weeks
April	120	109	18.8	37.6%
May	126	115	18.4	36.5%
June	112	117	18.2	41.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>18.4 Weeks</b>	<b>38.7%</b>

Source: Unvalidated Statistics; Excludes: Pre-Application Discussions; Proposal of Application Notices; Certificate of Lawful Development Proposed or Existing; Discharge of Conditions; Non-Material Change.

In comparison to the same period last year, the number of applications received has increased by 161 applications and the number of decisions issued/withdrawn has increased by 189 applications. Although the average processing time is above the statutory target of 15 weeks, processing times for local applications continue to improve with a large volume of applications being determined. The average processing time for local applications is within the target of 19 weeks set out in the Planning Departments Business Plan and is 0.4 weeks faster when compared to the same period last year.

**2.4** *Indicator 3: proportion of enforcement cases progressed to the target conclusion within 39 weeks*  
Standard – 70% of all enforcement cases progressed to target conclusion within 39 weeks of receipt of complaint

Table 3 below details the number of Enforcement cases opened and concluded as well as the percentage of cases concluded within the statutory target of 39 weeks. Please note these figures are unvalidated statistics.

**Table 3 Indicator 3: Processing Enforcement Cases**

Enforcement Cases Concluded (target of 39 weeks)				
2021/22	Number opened	Number brought to conclusion	70% conclusion time (weeks)	% of cases concluded within 39 weeks
April	36	16	25.8	87.5%
May	30	19	43.4	68.4%
June	30	17	35.6	76.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>36.8 weeks</b>	<b>76.9%</b>

Source: Unvalidated Statistics

In comparison to the same period last year, the number of cases opened has increased by 34 and the number of cases brought to conclusion has increased by 12.

The statutory target for concluding 70% of enforcement cases within 39 weeks continues to be exceeded by our Enforcement team with 76.9% of cases YTD concluded within the statutory target. Furthermore, the length of time taken to conclude 70% of cases is 2.3 weeks faster when compared to the same period last year.

**2.5** *Indicator 4: percentage of applications determined under delegated powers*

Table 4 below details the total number of Local applications determined under delegated powers. Determined is taken as the date the decision issued and excludes withdrawn applications. DfI Development Management Practice Note 15 Councils Schemes of Delegation recommends that councils should aim to have 90-95% of applications dealt with under the scheme of delegation. To date 97% of applications determined were delegated under the scheme of delegation.

**Table 4 Percentage of Local applications determined under delegated powers**

<b>Applications Determined</b>				
<b>2021/22</b>	<b>Total Determined</b>	<b>Delegated Determined</b>	<b>Planning Committee Determined</b>	<b>% Delegated Determined</b>
April	107	103	4	96.3%
May	114	111	3	97.4
June	113	110	3	97.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>97%</b>

Source: Unvalidated Statistics

**2.6** *Indicator 5: number of applications taken to Planning Committee and percentage of Committee decisions made against officer recommendation*

Table 5 provides details on the number of decisions that were determined by the Planning Committee at each monthly meeting and the percentage of decisions made against officer recommendation, including Major, Council and Local applications. This is taken from the date of the Planning Committee meeting. To note is that all referred local applications had the officers' recommendation overturned at Planning Committee which is a 100% overturn rate for referred applications and a 35% overturn rate in total.

**Table 5 Percentage of decisions at Planning Committee against Officer Recommendation**

2021/22	Total Planning Committee Determined	Officer Recommendation Overturned	Requested Referred to PC Determined	Total no of Referrals overturned by PC
April	8	5	2	2
May	-	-	-	-
June	12	2	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>

Source: Unvalidated Statistics

**2.7** *Indicator 6: percentage of appeals against refusals of planning permission that are dismissed*

Table 6 below details the number of appeal decisions issued YTD of 2021/22 business year. Please note that these figures relating to planning appeal decisions are unvalidated statistics extracted from internal management reports.

**Table 6 Appeals to the Planning Appeals Commission (PAC)**

Appeal Decisions	April 21/22	May 21/22	June 21/22	Total To Date
Upheld	0	1 Partially	1 Partially	1
Dismissed	0	1 Partially	1 Partially	1
Cumulative Total Appeal Decisions	0	1	1	2

Source: Unvalidated Statistics Internal Management Reports

**2.8** *Indicator 7: Number of claims for costs received by the PAC and number of claims awarded*

Table 7 provides the details of the number of application for claims for costs made by either third parties or Council to the PAC and the number of claims where the PAC have awarded costs. Costs were partly awarded in this case due to the retrospective planning application relating to the enforcement notice being capable of being issued prior to the appeal hearing and therefore the requirement for the hearing would not have been necessary.

**Table 7 Total number of costs received**

2021/22	Claims for Costs by third parties	Cost awarded against Council	Claim for Costs by Council	Costs awarded to the Council
April	0	1 Partly Awarded	0	0
May	0	0	0	0
June	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Source: Unvalidated Statistics Internal Management Reports

**2.9** Table 8 details the number of contentious applications which have been circulated to all Members and the number of applications subsequently referred to the Planning Committee for determination.

**Table 8 Total number of referrals requested**

<b>2020/21</b>	<b>No of contentious applications</b>	<b>No of contentious applications referred</b>	<b>% Referred</b>
April	1	0	0%
May	4	2	50%
June	10	2	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>26.7%</b>

Source: Unvalidated Statistics Internal Management Reports

**3.0 Recommendation**

**3.1 IT IS RECOMMENDED** that the Planning Committee note the update on the development management statistics.