

Title of Report:	Northern Ireland Planning Monitoring Framework 2019/20
Committee Report Submitted To:	Planning Committee
Date of Meeting:	27 January 2021
For Decision or For Information	For Information

Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)	
Strategic Theme	Protecting and Enhancing our Environments and Assets
Outcome	Pro-active decision making which protects the natural features, characteristics and integrity of the Borough
Lead Officer	Head of Planning

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

Screening Requirements	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 new reporting arrangements to the Department of Infrastructure which came into effect on 1st April 2019. DfI's Analysis, Statistics and Research Branch (ASRB) will continue to publish the official statistics on a quarterly and annual basis. The second Northern Ireland Planning Monitoring Framework 2019/20 Annual Statistical Bulletin was released on 22 December 2020. The Framework includes the three statutory planning indicators in addition to non-statutory indicators.

2.0 Details

- 2.1 Website link 1 <https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/publications/northern-ireland-planning-monitoring-framework-201920> provides a link to the full statistical bulletin.
- 2.2 The Statistical Bulletin provides details on performance across the three statutory targets along with a suite of additional indicators that are intended to provide a more comprehensive assessment of planning activity. 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.

Table 1 below details the performance against each Indicator and how this compares to all 11 Council's performance.

Table 1 Performance

Indicator	Description	2019/20	Rank out of 11 Councils
Indicator 1	Average processing time (weeks) taken to determine major applications	74.5 weeks (NI average 52.8wks)	8 th fastest
Indicator 1.1	Average processing time (weeks) taken to determine major applications (excluding withdrawn applications)	74.5 weeks (NI average 52.4wks)	8 th fastest
Indicator 2	Average processing time (weeks) taken to determine local applications	20 weeks (NI average 14wks)	10 th fastest
Indicator 2.1	Average processing time (weeks) taken to determine local applications (excluding withdrawn applications)	19.4 weeks (NI average 13.8wks)	10 th fastest

Indicator 3	Proportion of enforcement cases progressed to target conclusion within 39 weeks	87.6% (NI average 81.4%)	5 th highest
Indicator 4	Percentage of applications determined under delegated	92% (NI average 91.2%)	7 th highest
Indicator 5	Number of applications decided by Planning Committee	90 (NI Total 1060)	5 th highest
	Percentage of Committee decisions made against officer recommendation	15.6% (NI average 11.6%)	4 th highest
Indicator 6	Number of appeals against refusals of planning permission that are dismissed	42.9% (NI average 60.7%)	10 th highest
Indicator 7	Number of claims for costs received by the Planning Appeals Commission	5 in favour (NI total 36)	2 nd highest
	Number of claims awarded	1 against (NI total 9)	6 th highest

Source: Northern Ireland Planning Monitoring Framework 2019/20 Annual Statistical Bulletin.

3.0 Recommendation

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