BLAENAU GWENT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL	
Report to	**Chair & Members of Planning Regulatory & General Licensing Committee**
Report Subject	**Quarterly Performance Information** **Quarter 3 October - December 2019**
Report Author	**Service Manager Development & Estates**
Directorate	**Regeneration and Community Services**
Date of Meeting	**12th March 2020**
Key Words	**Performance Management** **Speed and quality of decision making** **Welsh Government Monitoring** **Quarter 3 Oct – Dec 2019**

1.0	Background
1.1	Every local planning authority (LPA) in Wales is required to collect performance information regarding the speed of decision making on all types of planning and related applications. This is submitted to Welsh Government on a quarterly basis.
1.2	This report considers the most recent data published by WG. The information relates to the third quarter of the current financial year i.e. **October to December 2019**.
1.3	It was published on the Welsh Government website on 5th Feb 2020 at https://gov.wales/development-management-quarterly-surveys

2.0	**Options for Consideration**
2.1	I have included 3 tables to illustrate current performance. 1. Fig 1 - ranks the 25 LPA's in order of speed of determining all applications "on time". This is defined as within the 8 week target period or longer time that may be agreed with the applicant. 2. Fig 2 – ranks the LPA's in Wales and in respect of the average time (in days) taken to determine all applications. 3. Fig 3. – shows decisions taken by Planning Committee that are contrary to the recommendation of its officers.
3.0	**Performance Information**
3.1	<u>Fig 1</u>: this Council decided **100%** of all applications in time. This compares to a Welsh average of 86%.
3.2	<u>Fig 2</u>: on average it takes **60 days** from registration to decision for this Council to decide each planning application. The Wales average is 87 days.
3.3	<u>Fig 3</u>: **38%** of Planning Committee decisions were contrary to officer recommendation. The Wales average is 10%.
4.0	**Conclusion**
4.1	Performance remains consistent.
4.2	When measured against the indicator of all applications determined "on time", the returns for the last 5 quarters are 100%, 94%, 100%, 99% and now 100%.
4.3	There is a similar picture when looking at the indicator that measures the average time (in days) it takes to decide applications. Our return fluctuates but again, we are consistently above the Wales average. We have shaved 10 days off the average time since the last quarter which is pleasing.
4.4	The number of decisions where Planning Committee overturns the officer recommendation is again very high and unfortunately is significantly above the Wales average and shows no sign of improving.
5.0	**Recommendation**
5.1	That the report be noted.

Fig. 1

Welsh Government Quarterly DM Survey
Percentage of Planning Applications Determined "On Time"
(Ranked in Order of Performance)

	Welsh Local Planning Authority	Percentage Determined On Time Quarter 3 19-20 % in time (no. of decisions)	
1	Blaenau Gwent	100	(78)
2	Swansea	99	(465)
	Merthyr Tydfil	99	(76)
4	Brecon Beacons NPA	98	(169)
5	Vale of Glamorgan	97	(298)
6	Neath Port Talbot	96	(167)
7	Conwy	94	(196)
	Rhondda Cynon Taff	94	(256)
9	Powys	93	(306)
10	Monmouthshire	91	(299)
11	Isle of Anglesey	89	(195)
12	Cardiff	86	(628)
13	Denbighshire	85	(189)
14	Caerphilly	83	(231)
	Pembrokeshire	83	(189)
16	Wrexham	82	(243)
	Newport	82	(201)
18	Torfaen	80	(89)
19	Bridgend	75	(195)
	Carmarthenshire	75	(387)
21	Snowdonia NPA	73	(124)
22	Pembrokeshire Coast NPA	72	(85)
23	Ceredigion	63	(262)
24	Flintshire	63	(229)
25	Gwynedd	-	-
	WALES AVERAGE	**86%**	

Fig. 2

Welsh Government Quarterly DM Survey
Average Time to Decide Applications in Days
(Ranked in Order of Performance)

	Welsh Local Planning Authority	Days
1	Vale of Glamorgan	53
2	Swansea	54
3	Merthyr Tydfil	55
4	Snowdonia NPA	58
5	Blaenau Gwent	60
6	Conwy	62
7	Isle of Anglesey	63
8	Bridgend	67
9	Pembrokeshire	68
10	Cardiff	75
11	Neath Port Talbot	76
12	Rhondda Cynon Taff	78
13	Brecon Beacons NPA	81
14	Newport	88
15	Monmouthshire	89
16	Pembrokeshire Coast NPA	90
17	Denbighshire	91
18	Flintshire	95
19	Caerphilly	104
20	Ceredigion	110
21	Torfaen	112
22	Carmarthenshire	119
23	Powys	134
24	Wrexham	203
25	Gwynedd	-
	WALES AVERAGE	**87**

Fig 3.

Welsh Government Quarterly DM Survey
Decisions Contrary to Officer Recommendation
(Ranked in Order of Performance)

	Welsh Local Planning Authority	% (decisions contrary to reccomendation / total decisions by committee)	
1	Bridgend	0	(0/7)
	Merthyr Tydfil	0	(0/2)
	Monmouthshire	0	(0/23)
	Neath Port Talbot	0	(0/6)
	Pembrokeshire	0	(0/10)
	Powys	0	(0/24)
	Torfaen	0	(0/5)
	Vale of Glamorgan	0	(0/10)
9	Rhondda Cynon Taff	4	(1/25)
10	Caerphilly	5	(1/20)
11	Cardiff	6	(1/16)
12	Isle of Anglesey	7	(1/13)
13	Swansea	9	(1/11)
14	Brecon Beacons NPA	12	(1/8)
	Newport	12	(1/8)
16	Carmarthenshire	14	(3/22)
17	Wrexham	14	(6/42)
18	Flintshire	15	(2/13)
	Conwy	17	(1/6)
20	Snowdonia NPA	17	(2/12)
21	Denbighshire	25	(4/16)
22	Pembrokeshire Coast NPA	33	(1/3)
23	Blaenau Gwent	38	(3/8)
24	Ceredigion	100	(2/2)
25	Gwynedd	-	-
	Wales Average	**10%**	