BLAENAU GWENT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL	
Report to	**Chair & Members of Planning Regulatory & General Licensing Committee**
Report Subject	**Quarterly Performance Information** **Quarter 4 January – March 2020**
Report Author	**Service Manager Development & Estates**
Directorate	**Regeneration and Community Services**
Date of Meeting	**3rd September 2020**
Key Words	**Performance Management** **Speed and quality of decision making** **Welsh Government Monitoring** **Quarter 4 January to March 2020**

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 second quarter of the current financial year i.e. **January to March 2020**.
1.3	It was published on the Welsh Government website on 21st May 2020 at https://gov.wales/development-management-quarterly-survey-july-september-2019

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 85%.
3.2	<u>Fig 2</u>: on average it takes **60 days** from registration to decision for the Council to decide each planning application. The Wales average is 83 days.
3.3	<u>Fig 3</u>: **29%** of Planning Committee decisions were contrary to officer recommendation. The Wales average is 15%.
4.0	**Conclusion**
4.1	These are the last meaningful statistics that will be available for some time as the study period covers the last quarter of 19/20 i.e. just before the planning service was severely disrupted by covid related issues.
4.2	Performance remains consistent. When measured against the indicator of all applications determined "on time", the returns for the last 5 quarters are 94%, 100%, 99%, 100% and 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 and the trend is positive.
4.4	The number of decisions where Planning Committee overturns the officer recommendation is again high and unfortunately well above the Wales average.
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 of Applications Determined On Time *(number of decisions)*	
		Quarter 4 19-20	
1	**Blaenau Gwent**	**100%**	*(73)*
	Brecon Beacons NPA	100%	*(115)*
	Merthyr Tydfil	100%	*(61)*
4	Swansea	99%	*(402)*
5	Neath Port Talbot	97%	*(178)*
6	Caerphilly	95%	*(201)*
7	Vale of Glamorgan	93%	*(299)*
	Anglesey	93%	*(160)*
9	Powys	92%	*(340)*
10	Monmouthshire	91%	*(219)*
11	Conwy	89%	*(213)*
12	Denbighshire	88%	*(147)*
13	Pembrokeshire	84%	*(193)*
	Cardiff	84%	*(553)*
15	Wrexham	82%	*(243)*
16	Flintshire	81%	*(213)*
17	Torfaen	80%	*(105)*
18	Ceredigion	79%	*(307)*
19	Newport	77%	*(209)*
20	Pembrokeshire Coast NPA	76%	*(127)*
21	Bridgend	75%	*(205)*
22	Carmarthenshire	68%	*(340)*
23	Snowdonia NPA	60%	*(77)*
24	Gwynedd	58%	*(209)*
25	Rhondda Cynon Taff	-----	-----
	WALES AVERAGE	**85%**	

Fig. 2

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

	Welsh Local Planning Authority	Average Time to Decide Planning Applications (In Days) Quarter 4 19-20
1	Merthyr Tydfil	40
2	Swansea	53
3	Neath Port Talbot	55
4	**Blaenau Gwent**	**60**
5	Brecon Beacons NPA	66
	Conwy	66
7	Vale of Glamorgan	67
	Pembrokeshire	67
9	Bridgend	69
	Anglesey	69
11	Torfaen	72
12	Gwynedd	73
13	Caerphilly	74
14	Monmouthshire	76
15	Cardiff	77
16	Pembrokeshire Coast NPA	84
	Denbighshire	84
18	Newport	88
19	Snowdonia NPA	90
20	Flintshire	95
21	Carmarthenshire	107
22	Ceredigion	115
23	Powys	133
23	Wrexham	203
25	Rhondda Cynon Taff	-----
	WALES AVERAGE	**83 Days**

Fig 3.

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

	Welsh Local Planning Authority	% of Planning Committee Decisions Contrary to Officer Recommendation *(Overturns/Committee Decisions)*	
1	Anglesey	0%	*(0/19)*
	Brecon Beacons NPA	0%	*(0/1)*
	Bridgend	0%	*(0/3)*
	Conwy	0%	*(0/8)*
	Gwynedd	0%	*(0/10)*
	Merthyr	0%	*(0/2)*
	Neath Port Talbot	0%	*(0/3)*
	Pembrokeshire	0%	*(0/9)*
	Pembrokeshire Coast NPA	0%	*(0/6)*
	Powys	0%	*(0/15)*
	Torfaen	0%	*(0/5)*
	Vale of Glamorgan	0%	*(0/1)*
13	Carmarthenshire	3%	*(1/31)*
14	Cardiff	7%	*(1/14)*
15	Monmouthshire	8%	*(1/12)*
16	Snowdonia NPA	9%	*(1/11)*
17	Caerphilly	11%	*(1/9)*
18	Swansea	14%	*(1/7)*
	Wrexham	14%	*(6/42)*
20	Newport	15%	*(2/13)*
21	Flintshire	22%	*(2/9)*
22	Denbighshire	25%	*(4/16)*
23	**Blaenau Gwent**	**29%**	**(2/7)**
24	Ceredigion	72%	*(20/28)*
25	Rhondda Cynon Taff	---	---
	Wales Average	**15%**	**(42/281)**