BLAENAU GWENT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL	
Report to	**Chair & Members of Planning Regulatory & General Licensing Committee**
Report Subject	**Quarterly Performance Information** **Quarter 3: October to December 2020**
Report Author	**Service Manager Development & Estates**
Directorate	**Regeneration and Community Services**
Date of Meeting	**11th June 2021**
Key Words	**Performance Management** **Speed and quality of decision making** **Welsh Government Performance Monitoring** **October to December 2020**

1.0	**Background**
1.1	Every local planning authority (LPA) in Wales is required to collect performance information regarding the speed and quality 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 last financial year i.e. **October to December 2020**.
1.3	It was published on the Welsh Government website on 6th May 2021. [Link to Data]().

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 **98%** of all applications in time. This compares to a Welsh average of 81%.
3.2	<u>Fig 2</u>: on average it takes **74 days** from registration to decision for this Council to decide each planning application set against a Wales average of 89 days.
3.3	<u>Fig 3</u>: **25%** of Planning Committee decisions were contrary to officer recommendation compared to an all Wales average of 7%.
4.0	**Consideration**
4.1	The data in this quarter includes the national Covid "lockdown". The returns therefore have to be viewed in that context. They are not necessarily representative of our normal service provision or any other Local Planning Authority.
4.2	During this period, the service continued despite staff absences due to re-deployment and other challenges presented by remote working and the national pandemic.
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: 2020-21 % in Time
1	Merthyr Tydfil	100
2	**Blaenau Gwent**	**98**
	Swansea	98
4	Caerphilly	95
5	Neath Port Talbot	94
6	Monmouthshire	93
7	Brecon Beacons NP	90
	Vale of Glamorgan	90
9	Ceredigion	87
10	Powys	86
11	Rhondda Cynon Taff	85
12	Torfaen	83
	Denbighshire	83
14	Conwy	82
15	Cardiff	81
16	Isle of Anglesey	79
17	Flintshire	75
18	Carmarthenshire	70
19	Pembs Coast NP	69
20	Newport	65
21	Pembrokeshire	64
22	Snowdonia NP	63
23	Bridgend	58
24	Gwynedd	50
25	Wrexham	-
	WALES AVERAGE	**81%**

Fig. 2

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

	Welsh Local Planning Authority	Average Days Taken to Decide An Application
1	Merthyr Tydfil	50
2	Swansea	54
3	Rhondda Cynon Taff	60
4	Neath Port Talbot	64
5	Conwy	66
6	Caerphilly	70
7	**Blaenau Gwent**	**74**
8	Bridgend	76
9	Monmouthshire	79
10	Isle of Anglesey	81
11	Denbighshire	82
12	Cardiff	89
13	Gwynedd	91
14	Snowdonia NP	92
15	Ceredigion	93
16	Brecon Beacons NP	95
	Pembrokeshire	95
18	Torfaen	96
19	Vale of Glamorgan	97
20	Carmarthenshire	119
21	Powys	125
22	Newport	127
23	Pembs Coast NP	133
24	Flintshire	134
25	Wrexham	-
	WALES AVERAGE	**89 Days**

Fig 3.

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

	Welsh Local Planning Authority	% Decisions Contrary to Officer Recommendation
1	Brecon Beacons NP	0
	Bridgend	0
	Cardiff	0
	Caerphilly	0
	Carmarthenshire	0
	Conwy	0
	Denbighshire	0
	Merthyr	0
	Newport	0
	Pembs Coast NP	0
	Pembrokeshire	0
	Powys	0
	Rhondda Cynon Taff	0
	Snowdonia NP	0
	Swansea	0
	Torfaen	0
	Vale of Glam	0
18	Gwynedd	10
19	Neath Port Talbot	17
20	Monmouthshire	20
21	**Blaenau Gwent**	**25**
22	Isle of Anglesey	30
23	Flintshire	33
24	Ceredigion	56
25	Wrexham	--

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