

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

1 FEBRUARY 2018

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR COMMUNITIES

The All Wales Annual Performance Report 2016-2017

The Annual Performance Report (APR) is a factual public document which outlines how a local planning authority has performed against set indicators identifying what it did well so that this can be shared with others and what steps might be taken to address areas of performance in need of improvement.

The requirement for an APR was proposed as a result of the "Positive Planning" consultation in December 2013. Welsh Government (WG) consulted on a series of proposals for measuring the performance of key stakeholders in the planning service which includes local planning authorities.

Following adoption of the performance framework indicators in November 2014, local planning authorities must submit an APR every November with the first BCBC report submitted in November 2015, the second report submitted in October 2016 and the third (and latest) report submitted in November 2017 and reported to the December 2017 Development Control Committee.

It is also a requirement for Welsh Government to produce a Wales wide APR. A copy of the All Wales Annual Performance Report for the period 2016-2017 and published in January 2018, together with the Planning Performance Framework Table for 2016-2017, can be found using this link:

<http://gov.wales/topics/planning/planningstats/annual-performance-report/planning-annual-performance-report-2016-17/?lang=en>

The report summarises the performance of the Welsh Government Planning Division and the Planning Inspectorate (Section 2), Statutory Consultees (Section 3) and all 25 LPAs in Wales (Section 4) against the agreed indicators over the period April 2016 to March 2017.

The performance framework is intended to identify examples of good performance by planning authorities in delivering a planning service for Wales, as well as opportunities for improvement.

This All-Wales APR focuses on the performance trend over the duration for which the WG has been collecting Performance Framework data, in order to inform the future direction of service delivery. For the first time, the Annual Performance Report also considers the role of Statutory Consultees in the operation and delivery of planning services.

As mentioned in the Cabinet Secretary's Introduction, the report highlights areas of innovation and collaboration which demonstrates the creativity and commitment of planning officers working within Local Government and she is pleased by the effort undertaken across Wales to strive for quality local services, despite decreasing resources. However, she also considers that there is still significant scope for LPAs to

achieve more by working closely together and that limited progress has been made in this area.

Broadly, performance against the majority of indicators has improved when compared to the 2015-16 reporting period.

Bridgend's performance is indicated as being generally at or above average across the board for this period.

- *The LPA had a 5.1 year housing land supply when the All Wales was 2.9 years (ranked joint 3rd out of 25)*
- *The LPA took an average of 171 days to determine major applications against the All Wales average of 250.2 days (ranked 10th out of 25)*
- *The LPA took an average time of 60.3 days to determine all planning applications when the All Wales average was 75.9 days (ranked 4th out of 25)*
- *The LPA had 0% of planning applications determined contrary to officer advice (ranked 1st out of 25)*
- *The LPA had 73.1% of planning appeals dismissed in this period when the All Wales average was 60.9% (ranked 5th out of 25)*
- *The LPA investigated 84.9% of all Enforcement cases within 84 days compared to the All Wales average of 85% (ranked 16th out of 25) but only took an average of 48.3 days to investigate a complaint compared to the All Wales average of 88.1 days*
- *The LPA resolved 86.5% of Enforcement cases within 180 days compared to the all Wales average of 72.8% (ranked 3rd out of 25) but only took an average of 81.8 days to resolve a complaint compared to the All Wales average of 201.1 days*

Recommendation:

That the content of the report of the Corporate Director Communities and the All Wales Planning Performance Report 2016-2017 be noted.

**MARK SHEPHARD
CORPORATE DIRECTOR COMMUNITIES**

Background Papers

None