



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE
HELD IN MOSSLEY MILL ON MONDAY 19 OCTOBER 2020 AT 6.00 PM**

- In the Chair** : Alderman T Campbell
- Committee Members Present** : Aldermen - F Agnew, P Brett and J Smyth
Councillors – J Archibald, H Cushinan, S Flanagan, R Kinnear, R Lynch, M Magill, R Swann and B Webb
- Non-Committee Members Present** : Councillors - A Bennington, V McWilliam, J Montgomery and N Ramsay
- Public Speakers** : Councillor J Montgomery In Support (Item 3.2)
Noeline Heatley In Support (Applicant Item 3.2)
Henry Murray In Support (Agent Item 3.2)
Jane Burnside In Support (Agent Item 3.3)
Ryan Gowdy In Support (Applicant Item 3.3)
- Officers Present** : Deputy Chief Executive - M McAlister
Borough Lawyer & Head of Legal Services – P Casey
Head of Planning – J Linden
Legal Services Officer (Solicitor) – E Keenan
Principal Planning Officer – B Diamond
Senior Planning Officer – J Winters
ICT Change Officer – A Cole
ICT Support Officer – J Wilson
Member Services Officer – S Boyd

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

The Chairperson welcomed Committee Members to the October Planning Committee Meeting and reminded all present of the protocol for speaking, timeframes accorded and of the audio recording procedures.

In order to protect public health during the current COVID-19 emergency it was not possible to allow the public or the press to physically attend the Planning Committee meeting. The public and the press could access those parts of the meeting which they are entitled to attend via livestream (a link to which is on the Council website). The meeting minutes and audio recording will be published on the Council's website.

The Chairperson reminded Members that as was agreed by Members at September's Planning Committee meeting that the meeting would commence at

6.00 pm to consider Part One Planning Applications directly followed by Part 2 General Planning Matters, AOB and any In Confidence items.

The Chairperson further advised Members that Item 3.4 had been withdrawn by the applicant, and that an Addendum report relating to Item 3.3, the Site Visit Report and the speakers list had been circulated to Members with hard copies being made available in the Chamber.

The Borough Lawyer and Head of Legal Services reminded Members about a number of issues in relation to their role as Members of the Planning Committee and their obligations under the Code of Conduct.

1 APOLOGIES

Chief Executive - J Dixon

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

PART ONE PLANNING APPLICATIONS

ITEM 3.1 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2020/0442/F

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| PROPOSAL: | New detached 2 bedroom, 2 storey house |
| SITE/LOCATION: | Beside 6 Hollybrook Grove and to the rear of 5 Hollybrook Grange, Newtownabbey |
| APPLICANT: | Conor Devine |

Barry Diamond, Principal Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to refuse planning permission.

There were no public speakers to address this item.

Proposed by Alderman Brett

Seconded by Alderman Smyth and unanimously agreed

that planning permission be refused for the following reasons:

- 1. The proposal is contrary to the policy provisions of the Strategic Planning Policy Statement and Policy QD1 of Planning Policy Statement 7 'Quality Residential Environments' and Policy LC1 of the Addendum to PPS 7 'Safeguarding the Character of Established Residential Areas' in that, if permitted, it would result in overdevelopment of the site and it has not been demonstrated that the proposed development can achieve a quality and sustainable residential environment in keeping with the character of development in the locality.**

2. **The proposal is contrary to the policy provisions of the Strategic Planning Policy Statement and Policy QD1 of Planning Policy Statement 7 ‘Quality Residential Environments’ in that, if permitted, it would result in overdevelopment of the site resulting in an unacceptable adverse effect on;**
 - (a) **existing and proposed properties in terms of overlooking; and**
 - (b) **existing properties in terms of overshadowing and dominance**

ACTION BY: John Linden, Head of Planning

ITEM 3.2 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2020/0007/F

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| PROPOSAL: | Proposed agricultural shed and associated site works |
| SITE/LOCATION: | Approx. 130 metres south west of No. 17 Whitehill Drive, Randalstown |
| APPLICANT: | John Heatley |

Barry Diamond, Principal Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to refuse planning permission. In making this recommendation he advised that Officers, in light of information recently submitted, were withdrawing Reason for Refusal No.3 as recommended in the Planning Report.

The undernoted Elected Member and public speakers addressed the Committee and responded to enquiries from Members as requested –

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Councillor J Montgomery | In Support |
| Noeline Heatley | In Support (Applicant) |
| Henry Murray | In Support (Agent) |

Proposed by Alderman Brett
 Seconded by Alderman Campbell and

on the proposal being put to the meeting 8 Members voted in favour, 3 against and 1 abstention, it was agreed

that planning permission be refused for the following reasons:

1. **The proposal is contrary to the policy provisions of the Strategic Planning Policy Statement and Policy CTY 1 of PPS 21, Sustainable Development in the Countryside, in that there are no overriding reasons why this development is essential in this rural location and it does not meet any of the acceptable forms of development listed under the policy.**
2. **The proposal is contrary to the policy provisions of the Strategic Planning Policy Statement and Policy CTY 12 of PPS 21: Sustainable Development in the Countryside, in that the development is not associated with an active and established farm business.**

ACTION BY: John Linden, Head of Planning

ITEM 3.3 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2020/0503/F

PROPOSAL: Erection of Agricultural Shed
SITE/LOCATION: Site 20 metres to the rear of 70 Tildarg Road, Kells
APPLICANT: Mr and Mrs Ryan Gowdy

Barry Diamond, Principal Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report and associated Addendum Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to refuse planning permission.

The undernoted public speakers addressed the Committee and responded to enquiries from Members as requested –

| | |
|---------------|------------------------|
| Jane Burnside | In Support (Agent) |
| Ryan Gowdy | In Support (Applicant) |

Proposed by Councillor Magill
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and unanimously agreed

that the application be deferred to allow the Applicant to consult with their professional advisor regarding the potential submission of an alternative application for a domestic outbuilding and consequent withdrawal of the current application.

ACTION BY: John Linden, Head of Planning

ITEM 3.4 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2020/0499/O

PROPOSAL: Proposed infill site for dwelling and garage
SITE/LOCATION: Approximately 70 metres north east of 30 Duneane Road, Toomebridge
APPLICANT: Mr Steven Neeson

The Chairperson advised Members that this application had been withdrawn by the Applicant.

ACTION BY: John Linden

ITEM 3.5 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2020/0017/F

PROPOSAL: 2 Storey duplex apartment and 2 no. parking spaces

SITE/LOCATION: Beside 29 Ballyclare Road, Glengormley

APPLICANT: Trevor Brown

Barry Diamond, Principal Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to refuse planning permission.

There were no public speakers to address this item.

Proposed by Alderman Brett

Seconded by Councillor Flanagan and unanimously agreed

that planning permission be refused for the following reasons

- 1. The proposal is contrary to the policy provisions of the Strategic Planning Policy Statement and Policy QD1 of Planning Policy Statement 7 'Quality Residential Environments', in that the proposed development represents an overdevelopment of the site as it does not respect the surrounding context and is considered to be inappropriate to the character of the site in terms of layout, design and appearance.**
- 2. The proposal is contrary to Policy AMP7 of Planning Policy Statement 3, Access, Movement and Parking, in that it would, if permitted, prejudice the safety and convenience of road users since adequate provision cannot be made clear of the highway for the parking and turning of vehicles which would be attracted to the proposed residential unit and existing commercial property.**

ACTION BY: John Linden, Head of Planning

ITEM 3.6 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2020/0276/O

PROPOSAL: Site for dwelling

SITE/LOCATION: Beside (and 30m northwest of) 73 Crosskennan Road, Antrim, BT41 2RG

APPLICANT: Norman Hannan

Barry Diamond, Principal Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to grant outline planning permission.

There were no public speakers to address this item.

Proposed by Alderman Smyth

Seconded by Councillor Flanagan and unanimously agreed

that outline planning permission be granted for the application subject to the conditions set out in the Planning Report.

ACTION BY: John Linden, Head of Planning

PART TWO GENERAL PLANNING MATTERS

Alderman Brett left the meeting during the following Item.

ITEM 3.7

NON-DETERMINATION APPEAL – APPLICATION LA03/2020/0117/F: RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT BALLYCORR ROAD, BALLYCLARE

The applicant for the following planning application at Ballycorr Road, Ballyclare, has lodged an appeal with the Planning Appeals Commission (PAC) in default of a decision being made by the Council. This is what is commonly referred to as a Non-Determination Appeal. This means that jurisdiction for determination of this application had now passed to the PAC, rather than the Council.

APPLICATION NO: LA03/2020/0117/F
APPEAL REF: 2020/A0048
PROPOSAL IN BRIEF: Proposed residential development (32 dwellings)
SITE/LOCATION: Southeast portion of the former Craighill Quarry, 110m southwest of No. 155 Ballycorr Road, 105m west of No. 156 Ballycorr Road and 230m northeast of 1, 3, 5 & 7 Ballycorr Road, Ballyclare
APPLICANT: Craighill Developments Ltd

In line with normal practice for such appeals the PAC had written seeking a view from the Council as to whether it wished to provide draft reasons of refusal or conditions for the proposed development.

The Planning Section report (copy circulated) considered that the proposed development is unacceptable in its current form and therefore recommended that a draft reason of refusal be submitted to the PAC.

Proposed by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Councillor Webb and unanimously agreed that

the draft reason of refusal set out in the Officer's report be agreed and that Officers are authorised to submit a Statement of Case to the PAC on this basis and defend this position at appeal. Officers were also granted delegated authority to address any additional information provided by the applicant at the planning appeal and to add to or remove the recommended reason of refusal and provide draft conditions on a without prejudice based on the advice of statutory consultees.

ACTION BY: John Linden, Head of Planning

ITEM 3.8

P/PLAN/1 DELEGATED PLANNING DECISIONS AND APPEALS

A list of planning decisions issued by Officers during September 2020 under delegated powers together with information relating to planning appeals was circulated for Members' information.

Proposed by Councillor Webb

Seconded by Alderman Smyth and unanimously agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

ITEM 3.9

P/PLAN/1 PROPOSAL OF APPLICATION NOTICES FOR MAJOR DEVELOPMENT

Prospective applicants for all development proposals which fall into the Major development category under the 2011 Planning Act are required to give at least 12 weeks' notice to the Council that an application for planning permission is to be submitted. This is referred to as a Proposal of Application Notice (PAN). Three PANs were registered during September 2020 the details of which are set out below.

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| PAN Reference: | LA03/2020/0636/PAN |
| Proposal: | Extension to existing Park and Ride facility consisting of tarmac parking area for approx. 250 cars with associated fencing, lighting, accessible parking, cycle storage and CCTV provision. Proposal to include a link road to the existing Park and Ride at Mossley Train Halt with lighting, vehicular, pedestrian footpad and cycle path access |
| Location: | Land west of the existing Translink Park and Ride Facility at Mossley West Train Halt, Newtownabbey |
| Applicant: | Translink |
| Date Received: | 16 September 2020 |
| 12 week expiry: | 09 December 2020 |

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| PAN Reference: | LA03/2020/0637/PAN |
| Proposal: | Extension to terminal building to accommodate security area (relocation required due to mandated Government regulations regarding installation of Generation 3 x-rays equipment) |
| Location: | Belfast International Airport, Airport Road, Belfast BT29 4AB |
| Applicant: | Belfast International Airport |
| Date Received: | 22 September 2020 |
| 12 week expiry: | 15 December 2020 |

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| PAN Reference: | LA03/2020/0654/PAN |
| Proposal: | Erection of manufacturing warehousing/distribution unit with associated offices and car parking |
| Location: | Global Point Business Park, Newtownabbey, BT36 5TB |
| Applicant: | BLK BOX |
| Date Received: | 23 September 2020 |
| 12 week expiry: | 16 December 2020 |

Under Section 27 of the 2011 Planning Act obligations are placed on the prospective developer to consult the community in advance of submitting a Major development planning application. Where, following the 12 week period set down in statute, an application is submitted this must be accompanied by a Pre-Application Community consultation report outlining the consultation that has been undertaken regarding the application and detailing how this has influenced the proposal submitted.

As part of its response to Coronavirus, the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) introduced an amendment to subordinate legislation earlier this year to temporarily remove the requirement for a public event as part of the pre application community consultation (PACC). Whilst the initial Departmental Regulations applied for five months, the Infrastructure Minister, Nichola Mallon, announced on 1 October 2020 that the temporary suspension of the PACC requirement was being extended in light of the current uncertainty surrounding current and future incidences and spread of coronavirus.

The Planning (Development Management) (Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020 temporarily amend the Planning (Development Management) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and will now apply until 31 March 2021. As with the previous Regulations applicants will still need to comply with other requirements to ensure communities are aware of and can input to major development proposals for their areas. However, this temporary change will allow major planning applications to continue to be submitted during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Guidance issued by the Department indicates that specific detail should be included in the PAN application indicating what consultation methods the prospective applicant is proposing to ensure that the local community is able to access, and comment on, information about a proposed development, despite the absence of a PACC public event.

Proposed by Councillor Magill
 Seconded by Councillor Lynch and unanimously agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

ITEM 3.10

P/PLAN/1 - NORTHERN IRELAND PLANNING STATISTICS 2020/21 – FIRST QUARTERLY BULLETIN FOR THE PERIOD APRIL – JUNE 2020

The first quarterly provisional planning statistics for 2020/21 produced by the Analysis, Statistics and Research Branch of the Department for Infrastructure (DfI), a copy of which was circulated, were released on 24 September 2020.

The Quarterly Bulletin advises that both planning activity and processing performance were impacted during Quarter 1 of 2020/21 by the restrictions put in place due to the coronavirus pandemic. It indicates that this should be borne in mind and caution taken when interpreting these figures and when making comparisons with other time periods and performance across Councils.

The figures show that during the period from April to June 2020, the total number of planning applications received in Northern Ireland was 2,323, a decrease of almost 20% on the previous quarter (January – March 2020), and almost one third down on the same quarter in 2019/20. The total number of decisions issued during this period was 1,805 representing a similar decrease to the number of applications received.

During this first quarter period a total of 140 new applications were received by Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council (a decrease of some 23% against the last quarter and some 38% down from the first quarter last year which is slightly above the NI trend) with 148 decisions issued.

In relation to performance against statutory targets the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) figures show that the Council took on average 15.8 weeks to process and decide **Major** planning applications during the first quarter against the target of 30 weeks. This performance at first reading maintains last year's Major performance and ranks amongst the top three of the 11 Councils and also reflects well against the average processing time of 54.8 weeks across all Councils. However, Members noted that these figures relate to only 1 Major application determined during the first Quarter and should therefore be interpreted with great care. A more realistic performance figure will only become apparent towards the year end and Members were made aware there are a number of Major applications over 12 months old that may come forward to Committee over the next 6-9 months for determination. This combined with the ongoing impacts of coronavirus on the Planning Section could clearly impact on the Council's Major performance target by year end.

The DfI figures show that the Council took on average 9.2 weeks to process and decide **Local** planning applications during the first quarter against the target of 15 weeks. Whilst the figures relate to a smaller number of decisions in absolute terms, this performance maintains the progress witnessed in last year's Local performance and ranks amongst the top three of the 11 Councils. It also reflects well against the average processing time of 17.4 weeks across all Councils. The figures also show that over 80% of Local applications were processed within 15 weeks.

In relation to enforcement the DfI figures highlight that the Council's planning enforcement team took an average of 7 weeks to process 70% of enforcement cases to target conclusion. Whilst this again ranked first among all Councils and

compares favourably with the average processing time of 61.9 weeks, in absolute terms there was a significant drop in the number of cases dealt with during the Quarter. The team also maintained its position as ranking first amongst Councils in terms of the proportion of cases brought to target conclusion within the performance target of 39 weeks.

However, Members noted that the impact of coronavirus on the Planning Section resources together with the introduction of the staff furlough scheme in late May combined with enforcement work being limited to priority cases at that time has inevitably had a significant impact on overall performance in recent months. This impact will only become apparent when the Quarter 2 results for the Council are released towards the end of the year. As such the Quarter 1 results should, as the Quarterly Bulletin advises, be read with a degree of caution as it is anticipated performance will be shown to have declined considerably during the next Quarter and the ongoing impacts of coronavirus may continue to be affect performance during Quarters 3 and 4 this year.

Proposed by Councillor Magill
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and unanimously agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

ITEM 3.11

TPO/2020/0020/LA03 - SERVICE OF PROVISIONAL TPO ON LANDS AT GLEN PARK, NORTH OF GLENVILLE PARK, NEWTOWNABBEY

TPO/2020/0021/LA03 - SERVICE OF PROVISIONAL TPO ON LANDS BETWEEN SHORE ROAD AND ABBEYDALE CLOSE, NEWTOWNABBEY

On 2 October 2020, Officers served Provisional Tree Preservation Orders on the above mentioned lands in accordance with Section 123 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011. The Orders were served on the basis that it was considered expedient in the interests of amenity to preserve the trees on the sites in question and to prohibit the cutting down, lopping, uprooting, wilful damage or wilful destruction of the trees.

Members noted that these are Provisional TPOs which provide a 6 month period for Officers to undertake a more detailed survey of the sites in question and identify those trees or groups of trees which would warrant formal protection under confirmed Tree Preservation Orders. Prior to any Order being confirmed Officers will present a full report to Committee for consideration. In accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation, Officers were reporting the service of the Provisional TPOs to the next available Committee Meeting.

Proposed by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and unanimously agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

ITEM 3.12

P/FP/LDP 2 REVISED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN TIMETABLE 2020

Members agreed a Revised Local Development Plan Timetable at the Committee meeting held on 17 August 2020. Subsequent to this, the Planning Appeals Commission was consulted on the document as required under The Planning (Local Development Plan) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. A copy of their response was circulated.

A copy of the Revised LDP Timetable was also submitted to the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) for agreement as required under the Regulations and approval was received in September. A copy of DfI's response was circulated.

DfI has advised the Council that it is required to fulfil the legislative requirement in relation to availability of a Revised LDP Timetable which includes online inspection and inspection at its Principal Offices during normal working hours. Due to the COVID 19 situation, inspection at Antrim Civic Centre and Mossley Mill will be by appointment only. The Revised LDP Timetable will also be made available online and by post where requested.

DfI has advised that the Council should consider the impact of its Revised Timetable on its Statement of Community Involvement. Officers do not however consider that an update or revision to the LDP Timetable and its availability for inspection is a significant change to the SCI. As a consequence, it is intended that an update be posted on the Council's website stating that copies of the Revised LDP Timetable will be made publically available and that inspection is by appointment only or online at this time due to COVID-19.

Proposed by Councillor Lynch

Seconded by Councillor Magill and unanimously agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

ITEM 3.13

P/FP/LDP/96 – EXTENSION OF DATA SHARING AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE

Members previously agreed in January 2017 that authority to sign Data Sharing Agreements be delegated to Officers and that Members subsequently be notified of these.

The original Data Sharing Agreement (circulated) between the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) and Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council agreed in 2018 was initially for a period of 24 months with an option to extend the time period. The period of 24 months has now elapsed and DfI wrote to the Council seeking to

extend the Data Sharing Agreement to the end of June 2022 to allow provision of relevant data to continue. The extension to this agreement has now been signed by the Council's Head of Planning and returned to DfI.

Proposed by Councillor Webb

Seconded by Councillor Flanagan and unanimously agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

ITEM 3.14

P/PLAN/1 NORTHERN IRELAND AUDIT OFFICE – REVIEW OF PLANNING SYSTEM

The Northern Ireland Audit Office (NIAO) has written to the Council to advise that it will be undertaking a review of the Planning System in Northern Ireland (copy circulated). On foot of this correspondence the Chief Executive has responded providing NIAO with contact details for the Council's Planning Section (copy circulated).

Initial details of the review are set out on the NIAO website (copy circulated). This advises that the focus of the audit will be to examine how effectively the planning system, under its current operating arrangements, has been on delivering its key objectives. In particular:

- How effectively councils are delivering their Local Development Plan, Decision Making and Enforcement responsibilities;
- How effectively the Department has provided guidance and intervention to ensure the system operates effectively; and
- The key issues and constraints that have a negative impact on performance.

Proposed by Councillor Webb

Seconded by Councillor Flanagan and unanimously agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

ITEM 3.15

P/PLAN/1 PLANNING ENGAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP

The Chief Planner in the Department for Infrastructure, Angus Kerr has written to the Council (copy circulated) to advise that he is setting up a Planning Engagement Partnership to consider how the quality and depth of community engagement in the planning process can be enhanced at both the regional and local level. The Chief Planner intends to seek input through Heads of Planning from each Council and has advised that the Partnership will be assisted by Community Places.

Officers will keep Members updated on the work of the Partnership as it progresses and circulate the findings of its Report once prepared outlining recommendations and actions.

Proposed by Councillor Webb

Seconded by Councillor Flanagan and unanimously agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

ITEM 3.16

REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT PLANNING APPLICATION REFERENCE LA03/2017/0310/F: LOUGH NEAGH SAND EXTRACTION

A number of reports have been presented to Members recently on the following regionally significant planning application being processed by DfI relating to sand extraction at Lough Neagh.

Application Reference: LA03/2017/0310/F

Proposal: Application for the extraction, transportation and working of sand and gravel from Lough Neagh. Sand and gravel to be extracted from within two distinct areas totalling some 3.1km², in the north-west of Lough Neagh situated approximately east of Traad Point, north of Stanierds Point, west of Doss Point and south of Ballyronan and the ancillary deposition of silt and fine material.

Location: Lough Neagh within the Mid Ulster District Council Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council and Lisburn and Castlereagh Council Areas

Applicant: Lough Neagh Sand Traders Ltd

Full details of the application, including the application forms, relevant drawings, consultation responses and any representations received are available to view at the Planning Portal www.planningni.gov.uk

On 1 October, the Minister for Infrastructure, Nicola Mallon, announced her decision to approve the planning application subject to a number of conditions. In making this announcement, the Minister advised that the final decision will only issue once the associated Section 76 Planning Agreement with the applicant and relevant parties has been concluded to her satisfaction.

Proposed by Councillor Webb

Seconded by Alderman Flanagan and unanimously agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

ITEM 4.0

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No matters were raised under AOB.

PROPOSAL TO PROCEED 'IN CONFIDENCE'

Proposed by Councillor Flanagan
Seconded by Councillor Magill and agreed that

any remaining Committee business be taken in Confidence.

The Chairperson advised that the livestream and audio recording would now cease.

ITEM 3.17 - IN CONFIDENCE

P/PLAN/34 – PLANNING ENFORCEMENT REPORT 2020-2021 – QUARTER 1

The Northern Ireland Planning Statistics Q1 Statistical Bulletin was released on 24 September 2020 by the Department for Infrastructure's Analysis, Statistics and Research Branch. It includes information on the Council's performance on enforcement cases measured against the statutory performance targets set by DfI.

The Quarter 1 report was circulated and in view of the sensitive nature of some of this information it was presented in confidence.

The DfI figures highlight that the Council's planning enforcement team opened 66 cases during the period, compared to 111 during the same period last year. 19 cases were concluded, compared to 136 during the same period last year. No prosecutions were initiated during this reporting period, compared with 2 during the same period last year.

Whilst the statistics indicate that the Council has concluded 100% of cases within the statutory target of 39 weeks, it is expected that the Council's decision to prioritise the processing of planning applications during the Covid 19 pandemic will have a negative impact on future statistics as a backlog of enforcement cases has accrued.

Proposed by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and unanimously agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

PROPOSAL TO PROCEED OUT OF 'IN CONFIDENCE'

Proposed by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Councillor Cushman and agreed that

any remaining Committee business be taken in Open Session.

The Chairperson advised that audio recording would resume.

There being no further Committee business the Chairperson thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 7.30 pm.

MAYOR