



STRONG HERITAGE | STRONG FUTURE
RHONDDA CYNON TAF
TREFADAETH GADARN | DYFODOL SICR

RECORD OF DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION

Key decision ✓

SUBJECT:

Rhondda Cynon Taf Planning Service Annual Performance Report for 2015/ 2016.

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

In accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation, this report has been prepared to accompany the intended officer decision of the Director of Regeneration and Planning as described below.

The purpose of the report is to outline the contents of the Planning Service Annual Performance Report 2015/2016, and seek approval for its submission to the Welsh Government.

DELEGATED DECISION (Date):

It is agreed that:

The Planning Service Annual Performance Report be submitted to Welsh Government


Chief Officer Signature

JANE WISK
Print Name

20/10/16.
Date

The decision is taken in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government Act, 2000 (Executive Functions) and in the terms set out in Section 5 of Part 3 of the Council's Constitution

RB

CONSULTEE CABINET MEMBER SIGNATURE

20/10/16

DATE

OFFICER CONSULTEE SIGNATURE

DATE

Directorate:	
Contact Name:	
Designation:	
Tel.No.	

CALL IN PROCEDURE RULES.

IS THE DECISION DEEMED URGENT AND NOT SUBJECT TO CALL-IN BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:

NO ✓

If deemed urgent - signature of Mayor or Deputy Mayor or Head of Paid Service confirming agreement that the proposed decision is reasonable in all the circumstances for it being treated as a matter of urgency, in accordance with the overview and scrutiny procedure rule 17.2:

.....

(Mayor)

.....

(Dated)

NB - If this is a reconsidered decision then the decision Cannot be Called In and the decision will take effect from the date the decision is signed.

FOR CABINET OFFICE USE INLY

PUBLICATION & IMPLEMENTATION DATES

PUBLICATION

Publication on the Councils Website:- 20/10/16

DATE

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION

Note: This decision will not come into force and may not be implemented until the expiry of 5 clear working days after its publication to enable it to be the subject to the Call-In Procedure in Rule 17.1 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

Subject to Call In the implementation date will be _____
DATE


Secretary to the Cabinet Signature

CHRISTINA SS HWANG
Print Name

20/10/16
Date

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

**MUNICIPAL YEAR 2016/2017
REPORT TO ACCOMPANY DECISION OF
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Part 1

(Non Confidential)

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF
PLANNING SERVICE ANNUAL
PERFORMANCE REPORT 2015/2016**

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to outline the contents of the Planning Service Annual Monitoring Report 2015/2016, and seek approval for its submission to the Welsh Government.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that:

The contents of the Planning Annual Monitoring Report (attached at Appendix 1) are agreed prior to Service Director Planning submitting the document to the Welsh Government.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Welsh Government, publishes an all Wales Performance Framework for Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) in Wales. The framework sets out each authority's performance on a Good/Red, Fair/Amber and Improvement Needed/Red, basis judged against a set of published standard measures. These measures include a wide range of issues including status of the LDP and housing land supply; determination times for planning applications; speed of enforcement action; Member overturns at Committee; appeals performance; public speaking at Committee; and accessibility of the planning website.
- 3.2 In addition to this performance framework Welsh Government has a requirement for each LPA to submit an Annual Performance Report (APR) which offers the opportunity to set a narrative around the performance framework itself. The APR will give a description of the geographic, economic and corporate conditions the Planning Service operates in; outlines staffing and budget issues; any major projects that are ongoing and gives the opportunity to highlight any best practice the Service is undertaking.

4. KEY FINDINGS OF THE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

- 4.1 The Service had two 'Improvement Needed/Red' scores in the 18 measures in Performance Framework. The first related to the fact that the County Borough currently does not have a five year housing land supply and the second relates to the percentage of decisions that Committee makes that are contrary to officer recommendation.
- 4.2 In support of the APR the Welsh Local Government Data Unit provided each local authority with a range of performance data for their service set against the All Wales average. In 7 out of the 11 areas measured, RCT was at or above the Welsh average. The 4 indicators we were below on were average time to determine major applications (although this figure has been queried as being incorrect); the percentage of 'other' applications determined in time; the percentage of decisions made under delegated powers was less than the all Wales average; and the percentage of Committee decisions made contrary to advice.
- 4.3 The Welsh Local Government Data Unit also undertook a customer survey on behalf of all LPAs in Wales. In RCT, The majority of responses (67%) were from local agents. 22% were from members of the public. 17% of respondents had their most recent planning application refused. RCT was again rated above the Welsh average on all 7 of the questions that were asked.
- 4.4 The APR highlights the Service's involvement in major initiatives such as the facilitating housing project, the Treforest Industrial Estate Local Development Order, our Developers' Forum and cross service work such as the Pontypridd Lido and Vibrant and Viable Places. It also highlights the improvements that have been made to the way we present applications to the Council's Development Control Committee.
- 4.5 The APR also sets out areas where we are not doing so well and areas that need to be addressed in the future. These include the time taken to deal with major applications, the housing land supply and the use of technology both to drive more efficient ways of working and to deliver better services to our customers.

5. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) screening form has been prepared for the purpose of this report. It has been found that a full report is not required at this time.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 None required.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

- 7.1 There are no financial implications aligned to this report.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

- 8.1 The Annual Performance Report is a statutory requirement from Welsh Government

9. LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE PLAN/OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES/SIP

10. The effectiveness of the Regeneration and Planning Service plays an important role in delivering the overall objectives of the Council by ensuring the service creates opportunities for people and companies to live and work and invest in the County Borough.

11. CONCLUSION

- 11.1 The Council's Planning Service generally compares well in relation to the rest of Wales in the suite of measures contained in the new Performance Framework issued by Welsh Government. There are areas that need to be addressed but there is also work that is innovative and exemplar in a Wales context.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

**A REPORT TO ACCOMPANY A DECISION OF THE DIRECTOR OF
REGENERATION AND PLANNING**

18 OCTOBER 2016

Item:

Background Papers

RCT Planning Service Annual Performance Report for 2015/2016

Officer to contact: Simon Gale