

PLANNING AND ACCESS COMMITTEE

MEETING: Monday 30th April 2018

SUBMITTED BY:	Director of Rural Development and Planning
SUBJECT:	Planning Performance Framework 6 2016/2017: Feedback from Scottish Government

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1 SUMMARY AND REASON FOR PRESENTATION

- 1.1 This paper provides Members with feedback from the Scottish Government on our 6th annual Planning Performance Framework (PPF) Report, which was submitted in June 2017 and reported to this committee on 28th August 2017.

2 RECOMMENDATION

That Members:

1. **Note** the content of this report.

3 PLANNING PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK 6 FEEDBACK

- 3.1 The Scottish Government provides feedback to each local planning authority on their PPF report each year. They provide a table marking performance against 'Key Markers'. The highlights for last year's report (PPF 6 2016/17), are summarised in the table below:

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Marker		2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1	Decision making timescales	Red	Green	Red	Red	Yellow
2	Processing agreements	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Green
3	Early collaboration	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
4	Legal agreements	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
5	Enforcement charter	Green	Green	Green	Red	Green
6	Continuous improvement	Yellow	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow
7	Local development plan	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
8	Development plan scheme	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green
9	Elected members engaged early	N/A	Red	N/A	N/A	N/A
10	Stakeholders engaged early	N/A	Green	N/A	N/A	N/A
11	Regular and proportionate advice to support applications	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green
12	Corporate working across services	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Green
13	Sharing good practice, skills and knowledge	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
14	Stalled sites/legacy cases	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green
15	Developer contributions	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow

3.2 Overall we have secured an increase in the number of green ratings and, for the first time, no red ratings. The background to the ‘amber ratings’ is as follows:

- 1) Decision making timescales: Whilst the determination of one major application was faster than the Scottish average there was a fall in performance in householder development (10.5 weeks during 2016-17 compared with 9.2 weeks in 2015-16), however the improvement in Local (Non-householder) development timescales was noted (13.1 weeks in 2016-17 compared with 14.4 weeks in 2015-16).
- 2) Legal agreements: The average timescale for dealing with 4 local applications with legal agreements was 52 weeks. This was considered a significant improvement on last year’s figure, but still slower than the national average.
- 3) Continuous improvement: Both non-householder and householder applications are slower than the Scottish average.
- 4) Developer contributions: Further information was needed as to how developer contributions are raised at the pre-application stage.

3.3 Measures have already been put in place to improve decision making timescales (points 1 & 2 above) through restructuring of Development Management into two sub-teams: the Performance and Support team focus to provide targeted resource for key focus areas including householder and local (non-householder) applications; and the Implementation team focussing on larger more complex applications, monitoring and enforcement.

3.4 A new approach to Section 75 agreements (point 3 above), to seek to reduce the time for completion, is one of the service improvements for the coming year and is set out within the PPF. This has involved revising and updating at our procedures and improving our communications with the Legal Team.

4 CONCLUSION

4.1 The PPF report continues to be a key tool for measuring, reporting and publicising our ongoing commitment to progress the quality of our planning service and customer experience together with our target improvement areas for the year ahead. The feedback on the PPF report is generally positive and only four areas have been identified for improvement. For the first time no ‘red’ ratings were received. The next

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PPF document shall be prepared for submission in July 2018.

List of Appendices: **Appendix 1 Planning Performance Framework 6 (2016 – 2017)**
<http://www.lochlomond-trossachs.org/rr-content/uploads/2017/08/Planning-Performance-Framework-2017.pdf>