

KEY PERFORMANCE MARKERS 2020-21

No.	Performance Marker	Evidence
1	<p>Decision-making: continuous reduction of average timescales for all development categories [Q1 - Q4]</p>	<p>Statistics and data on timescales for decision-making on planning applications and other related planning application information are provided in Part 4B. NHI Key Outcomes – Development Management and Part 5A. Official Statistics – Decision-Making timescales of the PPF.</p> <p>Case Studies 1 and 2 of the PPF provide more detailed analysis of decision-making in relation to Local and Major Development planning applications.</p> <p>Other general evidence of processes related to decision-making over the reporting year can be found in PPF Case Studies 10 and 14.</p>
2	<p>Processing agreements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • offer to all prospective applicants for major development planning applications; and • availability publicised on website 	<p>General evidence of use of Processing Agreements can be found in PPF Case Studies 1 and 2 and also in Part 3B. Delivery of our Improvement Actions Committed in 2019-20 (Development Management Team); and Part 4B. NHI Key Outcomes – Development Management</p> <p>PPAs are offered to all prospective applicants for national and major developments and for many local developments. Availability and information on Processing Agreements is published on the website – see link below.</p> <p>https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/planning-applications/major-and-national-developments/#PPA</p>
3	<p>Early collaboration with applicants and consultees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • availability and promotion of pre-application discussions for all prospective applications; and • clear and proportionate requests for supporting information 	<p>General evidence of early collaboration can be found in PPF Case Studies 5, 8, and 12.</p> <p>In particular - Case Study 12 of the PPF provides an update on the work in relation to the Pre-application Review.</p> <p>Part 4B. NHI Key Outcomes – Development Management indicates the number of applications that were the subject of Pre-application advice during 2020-21 which is comparable in percentage terms to 2019-20. It is hoped that with the new Local and Householder Pre-application processes continuing to “bed-in” the level of early collaboration will increase.</p>
4	<p>Legal agreements: conclude (or reconsider) applications after resolving to grant permission reducing number of live applications more than 6 months after resolution to grant (from last reporting period)</p>	<p>Statistics on the number of legal agreements and timescales are provided in Part 5A - Official Statistics – Decision-Making Timescales of the PPF.</p> <p>These show that there has been only a marginal increase in the average timescales taken during 2020-21 for dealing with applications that have been the subject of legal agreements. There have been less applications that have been the subject of legal agreements but this is reflective of the reduction of applications received due to the Covid-19 pandemic.</p> <p>The Development Management and Legal Services continue to collaborate to monitor and improve working arrangements in relation to the early instructing and efficient progression of legal agreements. A regular Legal/Planning Liaison Group and Legacy Case Group continues to meet to discuss issues including legal agreements and ways to progress cases.</p> <p>There is a process in the Scheme of Governance in place that allows for delegation of refusals to Officers of applications where there is</p>

		clear evidence that a legal agreement is not being progressed for reasons outwith the control of the Council. Timescales set out are 4 months for Local Developments and 6 months for Major Developments from the point of determination.
5	Enforcement charter updated / re-published within last 2 years	Part 4C. NHI Key Outcomes – Enforcement Activity of the PPF identifies that the Council’s Enforcement Charter dates from June 2019 and as such by the end of the reporting year (March 2021) it remained less than two years old. It is publicly available on the website – see link below. https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/planning-breach-processing/
6	Continuous improvement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • progress/improvement in relation to PPF National Headline Indicators; and • progress ambitious and relevant service improvement commitments identified through PPF report 	Information on delivery of Continuous Improvement through Improvement Commitments across all aspects of the Planning and Environment Service are found in Part 3B. – Delivery of our Improvement Actions Committed in 2019-20. In addition evidence of other areas of Continuous Improvement can be found in PPF Case Studies 4, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16.
7	Local development plan less than 5 years since adoption	The Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan was adopted in 2017. https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/aberdeenshire-local-development-plan-2017/
8	Development plan scheme – next LDP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • on course for adoption within 5 years of current plan(s) adoption; and • project planned and expected to be delivered to planned timescale 	The Proposed Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2020 continues to progress towards adoption by April 2022. By the end of the 2020-21 reporting year the Proposed Plan had been submitted to Scottish Ministers (12 March 2021). It is now currently at Examination. https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/ldp-2021/ Part 4B: NHI Key Outcomes – Development Planning provides information on progress on The Proposed Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2020. Evidence of work associated with the consultation on The Proposed Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2020 can be found in PPF Case Study 6.
9	Elected members engaged early (pre-MIR) in development plan preparation – <i>if plan has been at pre-MIR stage during reporting year</i>	Not Applicable – MIR stage complete prior to reporting year.
10	Cross sector stakeholders* engaged early (pre-MIR) in development plan preparation – <i>if plan has been at pre-MIR stage during reporting year</i> <i>*including industry, agencies and Scottish Government</i>	Not Applicable – MIR stage complete prior to reporting year.
11	Regular and proportionate policy advice produced on information required to support applications.	Regular and proportionate policy advice is given through the Pre-application processes with enhanced responses now given in terms of upfront advice and requirements for submissions. See Case Study 12 of the PPF in relation to Pre-application Review.

		<p>Detailed information on the Pre-application process is publicly available on the website.</p> <p>Planning pre-application advice - Aberdeenshire Council</p> <p>Other evidence of advice being offered can be found in Case Studies 5 and 8 of the PPF.</p> <p>A wide range of Planning Advice is also publicly available on the website and this is currently being updated to support The Proposed Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2020 when adopted in 2022.</p> <p>Understanding planning advice - Aberdeenshire Council</p>
12	<p>Corporate working across services to improve outputs and services for customer benefit (for example: protocols; joined-up services; single contact arrangements; joint pre-application advice)</p>	<p>Evidence of corporate working across services can be found throughout the PPF and in particular in Case Studies 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, and 12.</p>
13	<p>Sharing good practice, skills and knowledge between authorities</p>	<p>Evidence of sharing good practice, skills and knowledge can be found in PPF Case Studies 6 and 11.</p>
14	<p>Stalled sites / legacy cases: conclusion or withdrawal of old planning applications and reducing number of live applications more than one year old</p>	<p>Information on numbers of legacy cases can be found at Part 4B. NHI Key Outcomes – Development Management of the PPF.</p> <p>Progress on reducing numbers of legacy cases has been impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. Additional information on this can be found in Performance Markers – Response form 2019-2020 Feedback (Page 13) and Part 3B. Delivery of our Improvement Actions Committed in 2019-20 – Development Management Team of the PPF.</p>
15	<p>Developer contributions: clear and proportionate expectations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • set out in development plan (and/or emerging plan); and • in pre-application discussions 	<p>Policy RD2 Developers' Obligations of the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2017 – Pages 78 to 80 - sets out the requirements for contributions to the provision of necessary infrastructure.</p> <p>https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/20619/local-development-plan-2017-part-2.pdf</p> <p>Section 14 – The Responsibilities of Developers of The Proposed Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2020 also has Policy RD2 Developer Obligations – Page 92.</p> <p>http://publications.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/dataset/f14a62da-30d1-488d-9338-7b09e82360cf/resource/82d8dd37-c834-44c0-809d-d495e3873cdb/download/proposed-local-development-plan-2020---introduction-and-policies.pdf</p> <p>There is detailed information publicly available on the website on Developer Obligations.</p> <p>Developer Obligations - Aberdeenshire Council</p> <p>There is also Supplementary Guidance “Developer Obligations: Methods of Calculation to show how exact levels of obligations are worked out.</p> <p>https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/20657/final-supplementary-guidance-7.pdf</p>

		Levels of developer contributions can be discussed at the Pre-application stage (see PPF Case Study 15).
--	--	--