
Planning Performance Information
Quarter Three (1 October 2024 – 31 December 2024)

Responsible Portfolio Holder	Councillor Kit Taylor
Responsible Assistant Director	Ruth Bamford

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To receive an item of information in relation to planning performance and the outcomes of recent planning appeal decisions. Officers will answer any related questions at the meeting as necessary.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to **RESOLVE** that this item of information is noted.

3.0 Report

- 3.1 This report provides details on the determination timescales for planning applications and planning appeals at Bromsgrove District Council when tested against the Government set timescales. This paper seeks to provide Members with a quarterly breakdown where applicable. Appendix One to this report contains a list of planning appeals determined in the relevant quarter.

4.0 Planning Statistics

- 4.1 On a quarterly basis, Local Planning Authorities supply information to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) on planning application type, volume, the speed of determination and other matters such as the number of planning Enforcement Notices, Breach of Condition Notices, Certificates of Lawfulness and Notification applications. The Government then use this information to publish planning performance data for each Local Authority that assesses the speed of decision making and the quality of decision making for major and non-major applications.
- 4.2 The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government publishes the document 'Improving Planning Performance'. This sets out that a local planning authorities' performance is based on two measures, that of the speed and the quality of their decisions on planning applications for major and non-major development. The document sets out the relevant performance targets and the concept of being designated if targets are not met. It also sets out that the assessment periods have traditionally been over a 2-year period (with a 9-month lag for the quality measure to enable the processing of associated appeals).
- 4.3 In December 2024, the Government updated its criteria document. The updated document retains the same performance thresholds but confirms the new assessment periods which includes a change to the assessment period

for speed of decision-making from 24 months to 12 months. This change has been made so designation decisions are made on more up-to-date data and are more responsive to changes in performance. This change came into effect for the period ending September 2024. The updated document will be used for designation decisions in the first quarter of 2025 and 2026. There are no changes regarding the period over which the quality measure is assessed.

5.0 Speed of Decision-Making

- 5.1 Planning performance is now based on a one-year rolling assessment period and measures the speed of decision-making.
 - 5.2 Speed of decision-making is measured by the proportion of applications that are decided within the statutory determination period (8 weeks for non-major applications and 13 weeks for major applications), or an agreed extended period of time.
 - 5.3 The Government requires a minimum of **60%** of major and **70%** of non-major applications to be determined in time, or within an agreed extension of time.
 - 5.4 Underperformance for speed of decision-making is when a Local Planning Authority determines a lesser proportion of applications in time compared to the required threshold.
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6.0 Bromsgrove District Council Speed of Decision-Making Figures

- Speed of decision-making for major applications over the rolling one-year period = **78.5%**
- Speed of decision-making for non-major applications over the rolling one-year period = **88.05%**

NB: The Government requires a minimum of **60%** of major applications and **70%** of non-major applications to be determined in time, or within an agreed extension of time.

Source: These are internal Officer level calculations.

7.0 Quality of Decision-Making

- 7.1 The information on the quality of decision making looks at the Local Planning Authority's performance over a two-year period. The performance data looks at the number of major and non-major applications determined by the District Council, how many have been refused, how many decisions have been appealed and how many appeals have been allowed. It then expresses the result of a percentage of the total applications in those categories.

- 7.2 Quality of decision-making is measured by the proportion of total decisions, or non-determinations, that are allowed at appeal. Fundamentally the performance measure is assessing how many applications the Authority has refused that have gone to appeal and the decision has been overturned by the Planning Inspectorate. The Government have set the maximum threshold that no Authority should exceed **10%** of decisions overturned at appeal.
- 7.3 The current published data runs for the period January 2022 – December 2023. The data is intentionally nine months behind the date of publication to allow a time lag for appeals in the pipeline to be determined.
- 7.4 Underperformance for quality of decision-making (represented by the proportion of applications that are subsequently overturned at appeal) is when an Authority achieves a higher proportion of applications overturned at appeal compared to the required threshold.
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8.0 Bromsgrove District Council Quality of Decision-Making Figures

- Quality of decision-making for major applications for the most recent period available (January 2022 – December 2023) = **7.7%**
- Quality of decision-making for non-major applications for the most recent period available (January 2022 – December 2023) = **2.3%**

NB: The Government requires that no Local Planning Authority should exceed 10% of decisions overturned at appeal.

Source: Table 152a and 154 [Live tables on planning application statistics - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/live-tables-on-planning-application-statistics)

9.0 Further Statistical Information

- 9.1 Members can access further information relating specifically to applications received and determined, application types, outcomes and those relating to a particular geographical area of the District, by using the Public Access advanced search and completing the relevant drop-down options. Guidance on how to use the advanced search function of Public Access can be found in the Public Access User Guide.
- 9.2 Planning Application statistics for all Local Planning Authorities across England are also published on a quarterly basis by MHCLG. Information on planning application statistical performance is available on the GOV.UK live tables. The tables can be accessed here: [Live tables on planning application statistics - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/live-tables-on-planning-application-statistics).
- 9.3 The Planning Inspectorate also publishes statistics in relation to their timeliness with planning appeals, which can be accessed here: [Statistics at The Planning Inspectorate - Planning Inspectorate - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/statistics-at-the-planning-inspectorate)

- 9.4 The Government is also promoting the 'Planning Performance Dashboard' [Planning Performance Dashboard Table Final.xlsx](#) which shows the proportion of decisions made by a local planning authority with, and without, the use of Extension of Time agreements. The Government considers providing this level of information enhances the transparency of planning performance data.
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10.0 Bromsgrove District Council Appeal Decisions

- Number of major appeals allowed in Quarter 3 and dismissed in Quarter 3:
Allowed = 0
Dismissed = 0
- Number of non-major appeals allowed in Quarter 3 and dismissed in Quarter 3:
Allowed = 2
Dismissed = 2

- 10.1 A list of appeal decisions received in Quarter 3 are provided in Appendix One attached to this report.
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11.0 Financial, Legal, Policy and Risk Implications

- 11.1 It is important to manage and monitor the speed of decision-making and the quality of decision-making.

12.0 Consultation

- 12.1 There has been no consultation other than with relevant District Council Officers.

13.0 Author of Report

- 13.1 The author of this report is Dale Birch (Development Management Manager) who can be contacted on 01527 881341 or d.birch@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk for more information.

13.2 Date of Report

20 February 2025

14.0 Appendices

- 14.1 Appendix One
Appeal Decisions: Quarter Three
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Appendix One
Appeal Decisions: Quarter Three

Major Appeal Decisions Quarter 3 (0)

Non-Major Appeal Decisions Quarter 3 (4)

Application Reference	23/00151/FUL
Decision Status	Delegated
Appeal Reference	APP/P1805/W/24/3338865
Site	45a Linthurst Road, Barnt Green
Proposal	Extensions and alterations to dwellinghouse to include porch, first floor, rear and side extension and a single storey rear extension
Inspectorate Decision	Allowed
Date of Decision	3 October 2024

Application Reference	23/00625/FUL
Decision Status	Delegated
Appeal Reference	APP/P1805/W/24/3341974
Site	Arosa, The Holloway, Alvechurch
Proposal	Subdivision of dwelling into 9 no. self-contained apartments
Inspectorate Decision	Dismissed
Date of Decision	4 October 2024

Application Reference	22/00248/INV
Decision Status	Delegated
Appeal Reference	APP/P1805/C/24/3340066 (Enforcement Notice appeal)
Site	Riverside Farm, Redhill Road, Kings Norton
Proposal	Material change of use of the land from a mix of agriculture and equestrian uses to a mixed use comprising the use of land for (i) the keeping of animals for exhibition and educational purposes (ii) equestrian and (iii) educational use, plus security hut and various structures/enclosure
Inspectorate Decision	Allowed (the Enforcement Notice was amended but the substantive matters were allowed). Dismissed insofar as it related to siting of portacabin/security hut
Date of Decision	29 October 2024

Application Reference	24/00514/FUL
Decision Status	Delegated
Appeal Reference	APP/P1805/D/24/3350642
Site	1 Poplar Drive, Barnt Green
Proposal	Two-storey and first-storey front extensions, and a pitched roof over, and single-storey extension to the rear of, the existing side flat-roofed garage.
Inspectorate Decision	Dismissed
Date of Decision	5 November 2024
