
**Planning Performance Information
Quarter Four (1 January 2025 – 31 March 2025)**

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 and planning appeal cost awards. 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. Appendix Two to this report contains a list of recent cost award outcomes relating to planning appeals.

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.

5.0 Speed of Decision-Making

- 5.1 Planning performance is 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 = **84.6%**
- Speed of decision-making for non-major applications over the rolling one-year period = **87.2%**

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 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 (April 2022 – March 2024) = **8.1%**
- Quality of decision-making for non-major applications for the most recent period available (April 2022 – March 2024) = **2.4%**

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 4 and dismissed in Quarter 4:

Allowed = 0
Dismissed = 1

- Number of non-major appeals allowed in Quarter 4 and dismissed in Quarter 4:

Allowed = 5
Dismissed = 3

10.1 A list of appeal decisions received in Quarter 4 are provided in Appendix One attached to this report.

11.0 Planning Appeal Cost Awards

11.1 A list of cost award outcomes relating to planning appeals are provided in Appendix Two attached to this report. All outcomes reported in Appendix Two relate to costs awarded against the District Council.

11.2 For the reference of Members, a cost award is akin to a civil debt, for which the limitation period to claim is six years from the date of the cost award decision.

12.0 Financial, Legal, Policy and Risk Implications

12.1 It is important to manage and monitor the speed of decision-making, the quality of decision-making and cost awards.

13.0 Consultation

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

14.0 Author of Report

14.1 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.

14.2 Date of Report

13 May 2025

15.0 Appendices

15.1 Appendix One

Appeal Decisions: Quarter Four

15.2 Appendix Two Recent Cost Award Outcomes

Appendix One
Appeal Decisions: Quarter Four

Major Appeal Decisions Quarter 4 (1)

Application Reference	23/00577/FUL
Decision Status	Committee
Appeal Reference	APP/P1805/W/24/3346123
Site	43A Barkers Lane, Wythall
Proposal	Demolition of an existing dwelling and the buildings associated with the caravan storage and kennels. Erection of 27 dwellings with associated road, landscaping, infrastructure and external works.
Inspectorate Decision	Dismissed
Date of Decision	4 February 2025

Non-Major Appeal Decisions Quarter 4 (8)

Application Reference	23/01400/FUL
Decision Status	Committee
Appeal Reference	APP/P1805/W/24/3348078
Site	Rear 17-19 Willow Gardens, Bromsgrove
Proposal	Demolition of existing garages and erection of new build dwelling including associated access and landscaping
Inspectorate Decision	Allowed with costs against the Council
Date of Decision	29 January 2025

Application Reference	23/01401/FUL
Decision Status	Committee
Appeal Reference	APP/P1805/W/24/3348079
Site	Rear 8-14 Willow Gardens, Bromsgrove
Proposal	Demolition of existing garages and erection of new build dwelling including associated access and landscaping
Inspectorate Decision	Allowed with costs against the Council
Date of Decision	29 January 2025

Application Reference	24/00267/FUL
Decision Status	Delegated
Appeal Reference	APP/P1805/D/24/3348253
Site	Fockbury Mill Farm, Fockbury Mill Lane, Dodford
Proposal	Outbuilding
Inspectorate Decision	Allowed
Date of Decision	3 February 2025

Application Reference	21/00271/CPE
Decision Status	Delegated
Appeal Reference	APP/P1805/X/22/3310781
Site	The Old Barn, Chapel Lane, Alvechurch
Proposal	Certificate of Lawfulness of Existing Use for - Use of land as domestic garden forming part of the extended residential curtilage
Inspectorate Decision	Dismissed
Date of Decision	7 March 2025

Application Reference	24/00384/HHPRIO
Decision Status	Delegated
Appeal Reference	APP/P1805/D/24/3345292
Site	Sugarbrook nurseries, Sugar Brook Lane, Bromsgrove
Proposal	Rear enlargement not exceeding 8m projection
Inspectorate Decision	Dismissed
Date of Decision	7 March 2025

Application Reference	23/01081/FUL
Decision Status	Delegated
Appeal Reference	APP/P1805/W/24/3348541
Site	Millbarn, Bromsgrove Road, Hunnington
Proposal	Conversion and extension of double garage to dwellinghouse
Inspectorate Decision	Allowed
Date of Decision	7 March 2025

Application Reference	24/00002/FUL
Decision Status	Delegated
Appeal Reference	APP/P1805/D/24/3350725
Site	55 Belbroughton Road, Clent
Proposal	Two-storey side extension
Inspectorate Decision	Dismissed
Date of Decision	18 March 2025

Application Reference	23/01090/ENFGA
Decision Status	Delegated
Appeal Reference	APP/P1805/C/23/3327300
Site	Holt Farm, Naylors Barn, Holt Lane, Romsley
Proposal	Enforcement Appeal: Without planning permission, the carrying out of operational development on the Land comprising:

Inspectorate Decision
Date of Decision

(i) the construction of a stable block
(ii) the installation of hardstanding and
(iii) the installation of hardstanding and gates
Allowed
25 March 2025

Appendix Two Recent Cost Award Outcomes

Application Reference	17/01290/OUT
Decision Status	Committee
Appeal Reference	APP/P1805/W/19/3230823
Site	Land rear 1-6 Smedley Crooke Place, Redditch Road, Hopwood
Proposal	Outline application (matters of access and scale to be considered) for the development of up to 10 two storey dwellings and alterations of existing access
Inspectorate Decision	Dismissed
Date of Appeal Decision	16 December 2019
Date of Cost Decision	16 December 2019
Cost Decision Type	Partial
Date Cost Award Lodged	23 September 2024
Date Cost Award Agreed	14 November 2024
Cost Award Settlement	£2880:00

Application Reference	22/00469/FUL
Decision Status	Committee
Appeal Reference	APP/P1805/W/23/3334752
Site	Land at Dale Lane, Lickey End, Bromsgrove
Proposal	Mixed use application for the stationing of caravans for residential use and the keeping of horses, with dayrooms and existing stable ancillary to that use
Inspectorate Decision	Allowed
Date of Appeal Decision	10 September 2024
Date of Cost Decision	10 September 2024
Cost Decision Type	Partial
Date Cost Award Lodged	23 September 2024
Date Cost Award Agreed	27 January 2025
Cost Award Settlement	£8940:00

Application Reference	23/01400/FUL
Decision Status	Committee
Appeal Reference	APP/P1805/W/24/3348078
Site	Rear of 17-19 Willow Gardens, Bromsgrove
Proposal	Demolition of existing garages and erection of new build dwelling including associated access and landscaping
Inspectorate Decision	Allowed
Date of Appeal Decision	29 January 2025
Date of Cost Decision	29 January 2025
Cost Decision Type	Full
Date Cost Award Lodged	30 January 2025

Date Cost Award Agreed	6 March 2025
Cost Award Settlement	£10,500:00

Application Reference	23/01401/FUL
Decision Status	Committee
Appeal Reference	APP/P1805/W/24/3348079
Site	Rear of 8-14 Willow Gardens, Bromsgrove
Proposal	Demolition of existing garages and erection of new build dwelling including associated access and landscaping
Inspectorate Decision	Allowed
Date of Appeal Decision	29 January 2025
Date of Cost Decision	29 January 2025
Cost Decision Type	Full
Date Cost Award Lodged	30 January 2025
Date Cost Award Agreed	6 March 2025
Cost Award Settlement	£10,500:00
