

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

23 January 2020

COUNCILLOR RICHARD BLUNT - CABINET MEMBER FOR DEVELOPMENT

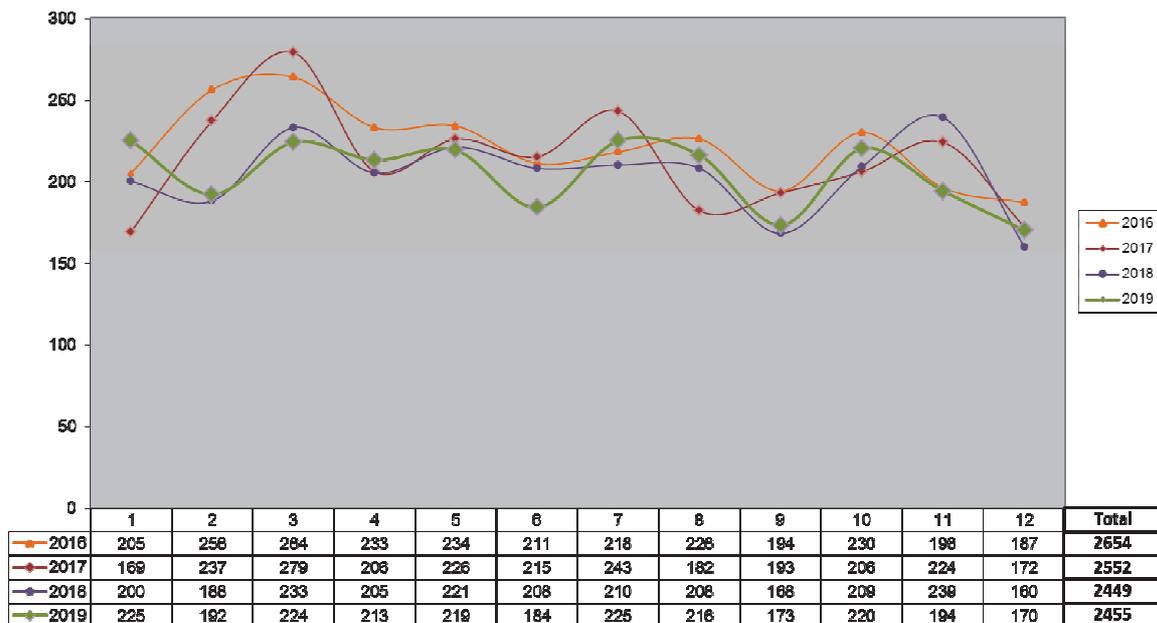
For the period 28 November 2019 to 11 January 2020

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Planning Applications

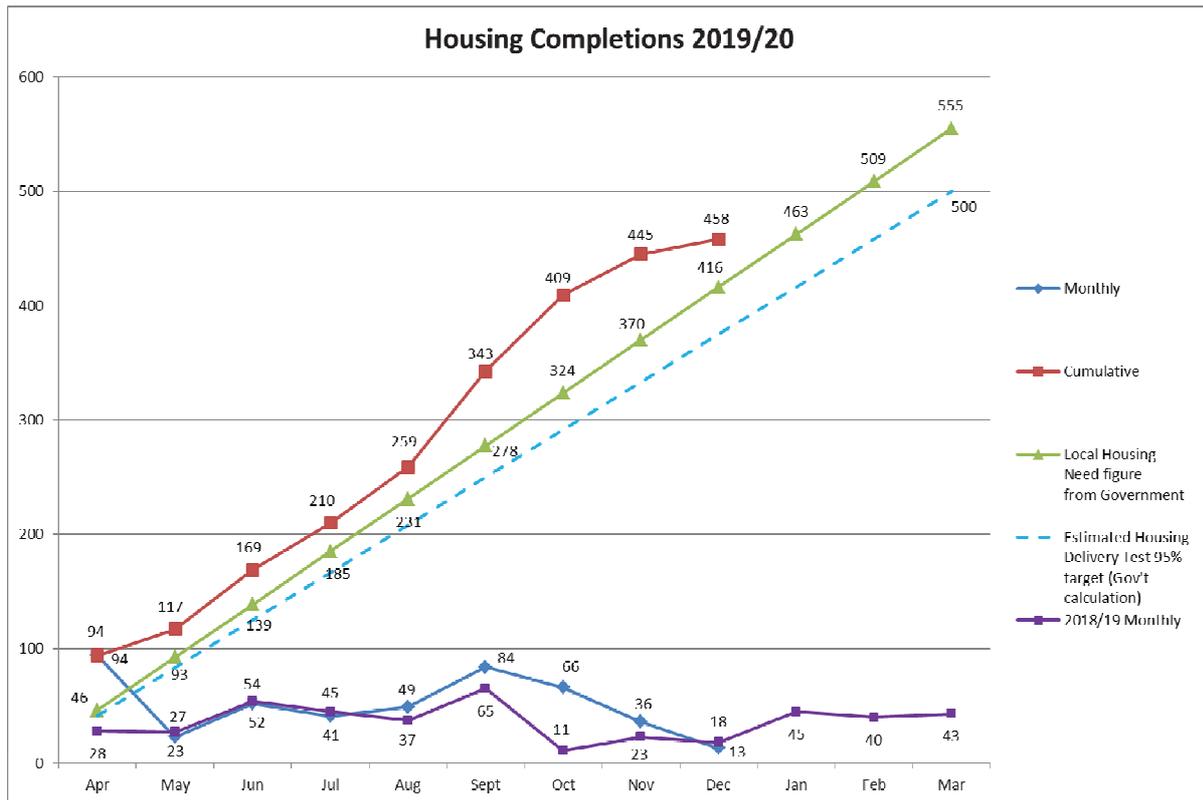
Planning applications received for 2019 was almost identical to 2018, 2449 in 2018 and 2455 in 2019.

Planning and discharge of condition applications received



Housing Completions

36 completions in November and 13 in December. 458 completions in the first nine months of 2019, April – October, compared to 308 in 2018, 42 above the projected Local Housing Need figure set by Government.



Appeal Performance 1/1/19 – 31/10/19

	Dismissed	Allowed
Planning appeals	51	13
	80%	20%
Enforcement appeals	8	2
	80%	20%

The national average figure for planning appeals allowed is around 34%.

Energy from Waste (EfW) plant in Wisbech

The developers of the proposed Energy from Waste (EfW) plant in Wisbech have recently contacted officers of all relevant Councils to discuss the proposed development, which is to be dealt with by a Development Consent Order (DCO) application, as given its size it is deemed to be a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project. A DCO application is dealt with by the Planning Inspectorate (PINS), who recommends a decision for the Secretary of State (SoS) for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy to either approve or refuse the application. There will be at least two rounds of consultation in the process, at the pre-submission and submission stages of the proposals, and precise details of the consultation strategy are currently being worked up by the developers. Officers have recommended that the developers offer to present the proposals to all Councillors in the pre-submission stage.

Kings Lynn Transport Strategy timetable

- January 28 Borough Council R+D Panel meeting
- January 29 Norfolk County Council Infrastructure and Development Committee
- February 3 Norfolk County Council Cabinet meeting
- February 4 Borough Council Cabinet meeting

Neighbourhood Plans

There is continued interest from parishes in preparing neighbourhood plans. Holme next the Sea plan is at Examination; Upwell has had an Examiner appointed; and there have been meetings held with Old Hunstanton about draft policies, and an initial introductory meeting with representatives of Burnham Market.

Local Plan Task Group

The Task Group continues to assess the responses to the consultation, with very thorough discussions on potential policy changes. We have met more frequently than anticipated, and will also devote extra time in the new year. However there is an impact on the timetable as a result.

Custom Build and Self Build Task Group

At the national Build It Awards, the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk scooped the Best Council for Self or Custom Build Award.

In winning the award, they beat off stiff competition from Plymouth, Glasgow and Cherwell councils.

Chris Bates, Editor of Build It and Chair of the awards, said that newcomers to the competition, the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk, were worthy winners. He added: "This local authority has won the award as they have worked closely with the National Custom and Self Build Association to bring forward the borough council's first custom build housing site. They have also actively promoted the benefits of 'Self Build' in their area so that all local residents are aware of the opportunity."

The Build It Awards celebrate all aspects of self build and renovation, including completed projects, services and suppliers. The awards bring together architects, manufacturers and key industry figures in recognition of innovation and excellence in the custom and self-build home sector. The Best Council for Self or Custom Build Award goes to the local authority that has done the most to facilitate self and/or custom building in the UK.

Meetings Attended

Portfolio Meetings,
Local Plan Task Group,
Custom and Self Build Task Group
Cabinet
Cabinet Sifting
CNC Meeting
Build It Award Presentation