

# CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

21<sup>st</sup> January 2021

## COUNCILLOR RICHARD BLUNT - CABINET MEMBER FOR DEVELOPMENT

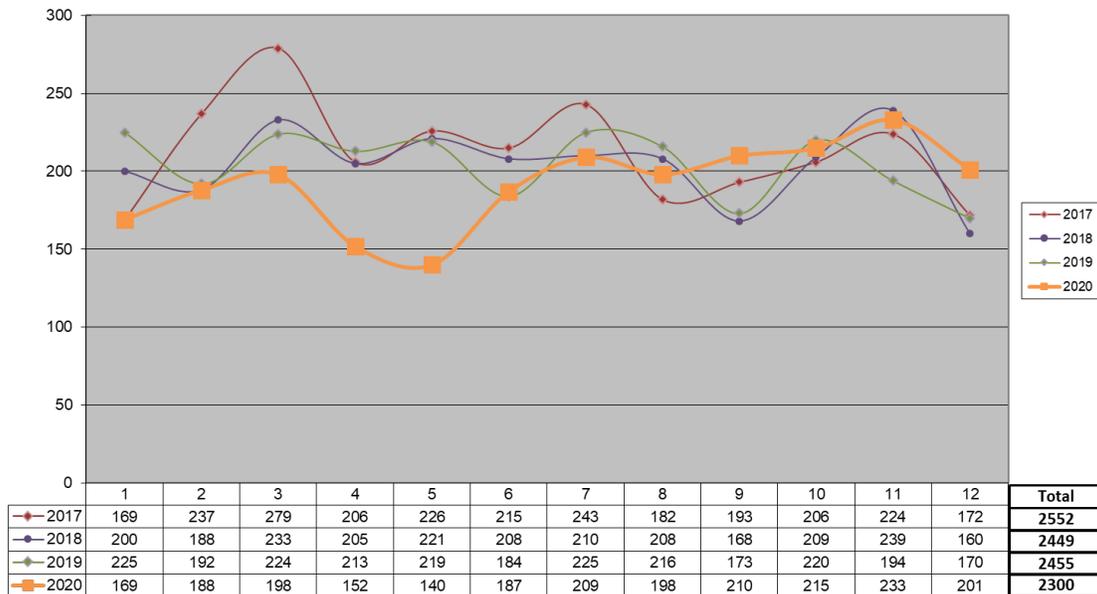
For the period from 21<sup>th</sup> November 2020 to 8<sup>th</sup> January 2021

### 1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

#### Planning and Discharge of Conditions applications received

Applications received for November and December continued to be high. Despite the impacts of Covid-19 applications were only down 155 (-6.3%) on the previous year.

Planning and discharge of condition applications received



#### Major and Minor dwelling applications received comparison

	1/1/18 – 31/12/18	1/1/19 – 31/12/19	1/1/20 – 31/12/20
No. of Major dwelling applications rec'd	26	26	19
No. of Minor dwelling applications rec'd	392	426	284

\*Minor dwelling applications = up to 10 units

Major dwelling applications = over 10 units

## Revenue income

Income for 2020/21

Projected	Actual	Variance
Apr - Dec	Apr – Dec Income for December is estimated at this time	
£872,738	£1,135,956	+ £263,218

Despite the challenges in adapting to new methods of working for both the planning admin team and planning officers, the performance for determining planning applications has been very good for 2020, with Major applications 94% in time (against a national target of 60%), and non-Major applications also 94% in time (against a national target of 70%).

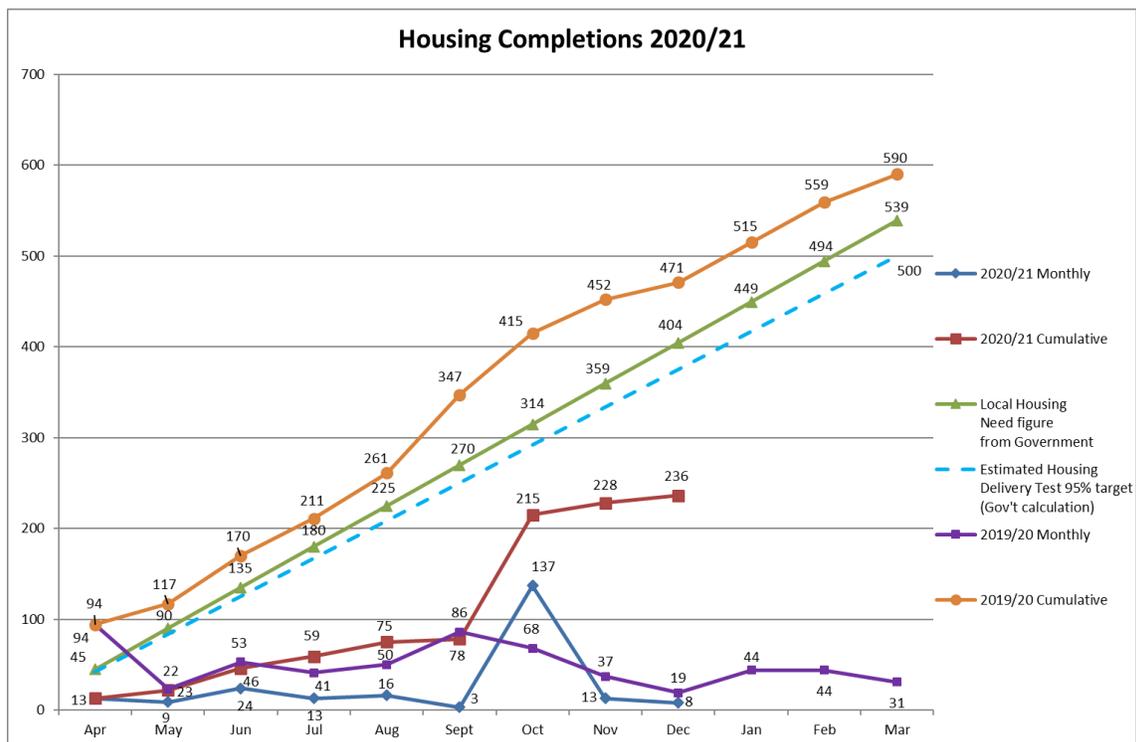
We continue to have a backlog of planning applications in the validation team, 75 at the time of writing my report (approximately 6 days). The team have now recruited to fill a vacant position and therefore this will help to reducing the backlog over the coming weeks and get back to normal service standards.

## Housing Completions

Completions are still considerably lower in comparison to the same time last year. 236 completions between April and December compared to 471 for the same period in 2019.

We continue to wait to see if the Government will announce if the Housing Delivery Test calculation will be altered to reflect the impacts of Covid-19.

The UK completion figures issued by MHCLG indicated there was a 62% reduction compared to last year between April and June 2020.



**Appeal Performance – decisions made by The Planning Inspectorate 1/1/20 – 31/12/20**

	Dismissed	Allowed
Planning appeals	30	12
	71%	29%
Enforcement appeals	6	1
	86%	14%

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

**Local Plan review Update**

The Local Plan Task Group met on 2 December and considered a series of amendments to the LPR document to conclude the changes needed for the next stage. In addition, we gave an overview of the next stages both to get to Cabinet / Council and the subsequent statutory stages. A more detailed proposed timetable was discussed by the Task Group on 13 January. Attention has been given including discussion at the Corporate Performance Panel, to the Communication Strategy for the next stage. It is vitally important that Borough Councillors; parish and town councils; and the general public and businesses understand how to make their views count when we formally 'publish' the LPR document. A number of approaches will be used, including whole Council briefings and special briefings for parishes and town councils.

**Meetings Attended** (via Teams Zoom and Youtube)

Portfolio Meetings,  
Planning Committee  
Planning Committee Sifting  
Planning Committee Training  
Local Plan Task Group  
Cabinet  
Cabinet Briefings and Updates  
Cabinet Sifting  
Environment and Community Panel  
Corporate Performance Panel  
Norfolk Strategic Planning Forum  
Audit Committee Members Training  
Various Meetings with Officers