## **CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL**

## 27 June 2024

# COUNCILLOR JIM MORIARTY- CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING & LICENSING

For the period 22<sup>nd</sup> March to 13<sup>th</sup> June 2024

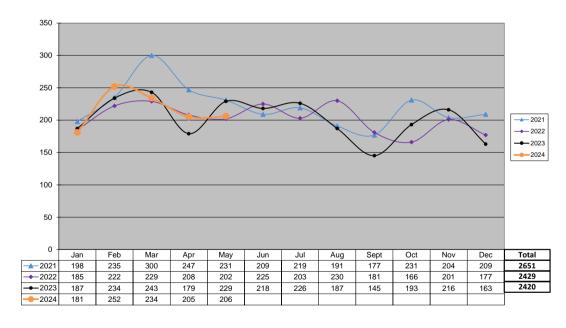
## 1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Firstly, my thanks to officers for their work during the period in question, and in compiling this report.

## Planning and Discharge of Conditions applications received

Application numbers at the end of May 2024 are almost identical to the same period last year.

#### Planning and discharge of condition applications received



## Major and Minor dwelling applications and householder applications received comparison

	1/6/21 - 31/5/22	1/6/22 - 31/5/23	1/6/23 - 31/5/24
No. of Major dwelling applications rec'd	20	17	11
No. of Minor dwelling applications rec'd	299	336	212
No. of Householder applications rec'd	822	711	599
Total	1141	1064	822

<sup>\*</sup>Minor dwelling applications = up to 10 units

Major dwelling applications = over 10 units

## 2023/24 performance for determining planning applications 1/6/23 - 31/5/24

	National target Performance	
Major	60%	93%
Non – Major	70%	90%

## Appeal Performance – decisions made by The Planning Inspectorate 1/6/23 – 31/5/24

	Dismissed	Allowed
Planning appeals	36	23
	61%	39%
Enforcement appeals	10	0
	100%	0%

The higher the number of appeals allowed, the more The Planning Inspectorate (PINS) is going against the council's decisions, so a low figure of appeals allowed (upheld) is clearly preferable. For context the national average for planning appeals allowed annually has historically been around 34% post National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

#### **QUALITY OF DECISIONS**

This measure calculates the percentage of the total number of decisions made by the Authority on applications that are then overturned at Appeal.

The Assessment period for this measure is the two years up to and including the most recent quarter plus nine months. Therefore, the performance for Q1 (end of March) is calculated as follows:

Planning applications determined between 01/07/2021 to 30/06/2023 plus 9 months = 31/03/2024.

The threshold for designation for both Major and Non-Major is 10% - this is the figure that should not be exceeded, otherwise there is a risk of the Authority being designated by Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).

MAJOR		
No. of Decisions Issued	No. Allowed on Appeal	% Overturned
84	5	5.95%

NON-MAJOR		
No. of Decisions Issued	No. Allowed on Appeal	% Overturned
3096	19	0.16%

#### Revenue income 2024/25 (Planning and Discharge income)

Figures are based on a full year projected income budget of £1,100,000.

Projected	Actual	Variance with projected
April 24 – May 24	April 24 – May 24	
£183,333	£127,162	-£56,171

#### **Development Management staff update**

There continues to be an active change in resources, and we are currently out to advert for an Assistant Planner. Adverts are about to be released for a Planner / Senior Planner. While this process takes place, we will be procuring the services of agency staff.

The Local Government Association and Planning Advisory Service have sponsored a graduate planner scheme (Planning Cohort 2) and we will be interviewing 6 candidates on the 19<sup>th</sup> June.

### **Local Land and Property Gazetteer**

A big congratulations to the team who are responsible for maintaining and managing the corporate Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG). Last year the team achieved a Gold Award but this year they have gone one better achieving the highest accolade, Platinium Award. GeoPlace are responsible for announcing and presenting the annual awards.

GeoPlace, a public sector limited liability partnership between the Local Government Association and Ordnance Survey. GeoPlace set local authorities very challenging performance standards to meet to ensure address data is extremely accurate, our performance is monitored on a monthly basis.

The LLPG contains the official address data for both residential (75,000) and commercial premises (8,500) across the borough. Change only data is uploaded daily to the National Land and Property Gazetteer, managed by GeoPlace. The address data is used across the Council, private businesses and by the emergency services to ensure they get to the correct location without delay.

You can check your address by using Find My Nearest <a href="https://www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/nearestplayareas#address">https://www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/nearestplayareas#address</a> set

### **Local Plan Update**

The Borough Council formally submitted its Local Plan in March 2022 for Examination. In doing so we made a formal request to the Secretary of State for the Department for Levelling

Up, Housing & Communities that the appointed Inspectors recommend any modifications required to make the Local Plan legally compliant and sound.

The Local Plan Examination process involved a first round of hearings which took place in December 2022 and January 2023. These were then adjourned, with reconvened hearings taking place in March and April 2024. As part of this an accelerated timescale through to adoption was agreed and has been published. This will result in the Local Plan being adopted before the conclusion of this financial year (March 2025). The process going forward includes consulting on Main Modifications required to ensure that the Local Plan is legally compliant and sound.

These Main Modifications will be subject to a six-week public consultation. This is scheduled to start the week commencing 24/06/2024. Representations received will inform the Inspectors Local Plan Report. It is anticipated that this will recommend that the Local Plan can be adopted subject to the inclusion of a series of Main Modifications. Following this a report will be prepared and taken to Cabinet and Full Council recommending that the Local Plan be formally adopted (February / March 2025).

Representations received as part of the Gypsy and Travellers and Travelling Show People proposed site allocations and policies consultation (10 May - 21 June 2024) will be passed on to the Inspectors for their consideration. This will then be the subject of the hearing sessions schedule for early September. Following this there will be a further Main Modifications consultation on this matter.

The accelerated timetable for the Local Plan, which includes key milestones, is available to view as part of our Local Development Scheme (LDS) (page 9 &10) via the following link: Local Development Scheme | Local Development Scheme | Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk (west-norfolk.gov.uk).

#### **Neighbourhood Planning Update**

As of June 2024, there are 19 "made" (adopted) Plans in place. Details of recently made (since 2023) and emerging Neighbourhood Plans are set out below:

#### Recently "made" Neighbourhood Plans (during 2023-24 financial year)

	Current position
Old Hunstanton Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2036	Passed at referendum, 8 February 2024;
	"made" <b>15 February 2024</b>
Burnham Market Neighborhood Plan 2022-2036	Passed at referendum, 21 September 2023; "made" <b>26 September 2023</b>
Gayton and Gayton Thorpe Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2036	Passed at referendum, 9 November 2023; "made" 20 November 2023
Stoke Ferry Neighbourhood Plan 2022-2036	Passed at referendum, 24 August 2023; "made" 29 August 2023
Watlington Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2036	Passed at referendum, 7 December 2023; "made" 13 December 2023

## **Emerging Neighbourhood Plans**

	Current position
Grimston, Pott Row, Roydon and Congham Neighbourhood Plan 2017- 2036	Examination concluded 20 May 2024. Decision expected June 2024 with referendum anticipated to take place late July/ August 2024.
Marshland St James	Preliminary draft Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment/ Habitat Regulations Assessment consultation with Environment Agency/ Historic England/ Natural England (June/ July 2024)
	1 <sup>st</sup> draft Plan (Regulation 14) consultation anticipated late-summer/ autumn 2024
North Wootton Neighbourhood Plan 2022-2036	Submitted, 12 September 2023; followed by pre- examination (Regulation 16) consultation (finished 24 November 2023).
	Examination commenced April 2024; anticipated to conclude summer 2024. Referendum anticipated autumn 2024
Pentney Neighbourhood Plan	1 <sup>st</sup> draft Plan (Regulation 14) consultation March- May 2023; Plan submission anticipated late-2024
Ringstead Neighbourhood Plan 2021- 2036	Submitted 22 April 2024. Pre-examination (Regulation 16) consultation due to take place 14 June – 26 July 2024 (inclusive).
	Examination to take place late-summer/ autumn 2024.
Walpole	Preliminary draft Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment/ Habitat Regulations Assessment consultation with Environment Agency/ Historic England/ Natural England (June/ July 2024)
	1 <sup>st</sup> draft Plan (Regulation 14) consultation anticipated late-summer/ autumn 2024
Walpole Cross Keys (review of 2017 Neighbourhood Plan)	Preliminary draft Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment/ Habitat Regulations Assessment consultation with Environment Agency/ Historic England/ Natural England (June/ July 2024)
	1 <sup>st</sup> draft Plan (Regulation 14) consultation anticipated late-summer/ autumn 2024
In addition, several other Parishes are designated Neighbourhood Areas, but progress with plan-making is unknown or at an early stage	Burnham Overy (designated 5 December 2023); Dersingham; Downham Market; Docking (designated 22 December 2023); Great Massingham; Ingoldisthorpe; Outwell; Shouldham; Syderstone; Tilney St Lawrence; Walpole; West Dereham
Expressions of interest	King's Lynn Area Committee; Little Massingham Parish Council; Titchwell Parish Meeting

