



## **REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 12TH DECEMBER 2017**

**SUBJECT: ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT – PLANNING**

**REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR - COMMUNITIES**

---

### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To advise members of the contents of the Annual Performance Report (APR) for the Planning service of the Planning and Regeneration Division, which encompasses the Development Management and the Strategic Development Plan groups.

### **2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The APR was proposed by Welsh Government as a result of the 'Positive Planning' consultation in December 2013. They consulted on a series of proposals for measuring the performance of key stakeholders in the planning service and proposed that stakeholders should prepare an annual report, discussing how their organisation had performed against the indicators, identifying what it had done well so that this can be shared with others, and what steps might be taken to address areas of performance in need of improvement. The first reports were submitted in November 2015. A draft report, attached as an appendix to this report, was submitted to Welsh Government in early November 2017.

### **3. LINKS TO STRATEGY**

- 3.1 3.1 The Single Integrated Plan Caerphilly Delivers has been prepared by the Local Service Board, and it represents a determined commitment by all partners to accelerate change, strengthen partnership working, multi-agency collaboration, and accountability for delivery.
- 3.2 The Local Development Plan is the statutory framework for the development and use of land within Caerphilly County Borough and is the key mechanism for delivering the land use elements of Caerphilly Delivers.
- 3.3 The Future Generations Act 2014 has 7 national goals which all public bodies are expected to contribute towards. An APR that reflects a good planning service will accord with those goals, which are
- A prosperous Wales
  - A resilient Wales
  - A healthier Wales
  - A more equal Wales
  - A Wales of cohesive communities
  - A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language
  - A globally responsible Wales.

#### **4. THE REPORT**

- 4.1 The APR is attached as an appendix. In summary it shows that there have been improvements in performance over the past year, compared to our performance in previous years, and compared to other local planning authorities in Wales. However, there continue to be areas for improvement that need to be addressed over the coming year, and the APR is a useful means of identifying those areas, establishing appropriate actions, and measuring progress.

#### **5. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS**

- 5.1 The report is largely informative, containing details of performance over the past year, but it also allows an opportunity for reflection in respect of the five ways of working listed in the Act, which are as follows.
- Long Term – The actions identified must ensure that best practice is adopted in the long-term to ensure that the local planning authority continues to deliver an efficient service whilst securing material planning objectives.
  - Prevention - Those best practices should be flexible and ensure that changing conditions are anticipated so that a good quality service can be maintained.
  - Integration – It is essential that the local planning authority cooperates with other public bodies to deliver its service, and this is already reflected in its day-to-day work.
  - Collaboration – It is essential that the local planning authority cooperates with other public bodies to deliver its service, and this is already reflected in its day-to-day work.
  - Involvement – Public consultation is at the heart of the planning process.

#### **6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment is not required as the report is for information.

#### **7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 There are no financial implications to this report although there may be some in respect of identified risks as part of performance.

#### **8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 None.

#### **9. CONSULTATIONS**

- 9.1 None.

#### **10. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 10.1 Members note the contents of the APR.

#### **11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 11.1 To allow members the opportunity to review, question and comment upon the performance of the Planning Service.

## **12. STATUTORY POWER**

- 12.1 This is to identify the enabling statutory power(s) for the decision under consideration. It should also state whether the power(s) are the responsibility of full Council or Cabinet and if it has been delegated to officers.

Author: Tim Stephens - Interim Head of Planning  
Consultees: Christina HARRY - Corporate Director Communities

Appendices:  
Appendix 1 Caerphilly LPA - Planning Annual Performance Report (APR) - 2016-17