

SERVICE UPDATE

<u>Name of Function:</u>	Strategic Place Planning
<u>Date:</u>	4 th March 2019
<u>Title of Update:</u>	Planning Performance Framework Report
<u>Report Author:</u>	Daniel Lewis
<u>Chief Officer:</u>	Gale Beattie
<u>Contact Details:</u>	Email: dlewis@aberdeencity.gov.uk
<u>Committee Terms of Reference:</u>	Terms of Reference

UPDATE:

This report briefs Members on the highlights of Aberdeen City's annual [Planning Performance Framework Report](#) (PPF) for 2017-18 that the Chief Officer, Strategic Place Planning submitted to the Scottish Government in July 2018. It also reports on the Scottish Government's positive and welcome feedback on the PPF that was received in January this year. Members are encouraged to read the full PPF report which can be found [here](#).

The PPF demonstrates the impressive breadth and scope of work carried out by the Council's planning service of Aberdeen City Council in 2017-18 in delivering improved performance and a high-quality planning service. It details the measures that have been put in place to build on and implement the independent review carried out by the Planning Advisory Service in 2017. The actions stemming from the review identified improvements which will improve and maintain performance of the Service in the future and align it with the transformational change of the entire Council as it moves towards implementing the new Target Operating Model.

Some notable highlights are:

- Key role played in the evolution of Marischal Square; a vibrant mixed-use quarter of restaurants, cafes and offices named 'Development of the Year 2018' at the Scottish Property Awards.
- Making a significant contribution towards delivery of a new football stadium for Aberdeen Football Club, the transformation of Union Terrace Gardens, shaping the regeneration of Broadford Works, the transformation of the City's Art Gallery and Music Hall and the creation of Provost Skene's House Museum

- Reconfiguration of the Development Management Team from North and South Area teams to Major Applications and Applications Team
- Planning performance in terms of speed of determination times for applications has continued to improve across the full range of planning application types and all the main indicators are now below the last recorded annual Scottish average for 2016-17.
- A successful collaborative peer review exchange visits with this year's PPF twinning authority, Edinburgh City Council
- Food Growing Strategy – a pioneering collaborative cross-sector project underway
- Union Street Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme - programme now fully funded & progressing
- £430K external funding secured for open space/outdoor access improvements

The key areas of work and successful projects are showcased throughout the [report](#) by a number of in-depth case studies.

In January this year the Scottish Government published its official feedback on Aberdeen City's planning performance that showed performance was the best ever measured against the 15 key markers. The City's planning team gained:

- 13 green indicators (targets met or exceeded/performance improvement),
- 2 amber (targets not fully met) and
- No red indicators (targets not met/declining performance).

The key performance indicators (KPIs) for planning application determination times were particularly noteworthy (see table below) with all the indicators flagged as Green (continuous improvement achieved) and all timescales equalling or better than the Scottish average. The full Scottish Government report can be read [here](#) .

Decision Making Timescales (weeks)	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2017-18 Scottish Average
Major Development	87.8	88.6	47.6	24.1	43.9	23.1	33.6
Local (Non-Householder) Development	16.2	15.9	16.6	14.3	13.0	10.2	10.7
Householder Development	9.8	10.0	12.8	12.8	8.7	7.3	7.3