



Planning Committee

2.00pm, Wednesday 3 October 2018

Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

Planning Committee

Convener:	Members:	Contacts:
<p>Councillor Neil Gardiner</p>  <p>Vice- Convener Councillor Maureen Child</p> 	<p>Councillor Chas Booth Councillor Denis Dixon Councillor George Gordon Councillor Joan Griffiths Councillor John McLellan Councillor Max Mitchell Councillor Joanna Mowat Councillor Hal Osler Councillor Alex Staniforth</p>	<p>Veronica Macmillan Committee Services 0131 529 4283 veronica.macmillan@edinburgh.gov.uk</p> <p>David Givan Service Manager Building Standards 0131 529 367 david.givan@edinburgh.gov.uk</p> <p>David Leslie Chief Planning Officer 0131 529 3948 david.leslie@edinburgh.gov.uk</p>

Building Standards Improvements

Progress has continued to be made on the Building Standards Improvement Plan. The People Plan has been developed and is focussed on leadership and management, operational performance, employee consultation and engagement as well as developing a workforce fit for needs of the service. The major themes are continuous improvement and supporting employees through this period of change.

In August and September a recruitment campaign was run. This targeted potential candidates for Building Standards jobs via social media including Linked-In, Twitter, Facebook. This has proved successful and it is expected that all vacant posts will be filled.

In addition, in September, three Apprentice Building Standards Surveyors were appointed. In conjunction with their employment, they are working towards undergraduate degrees at Heriot Watt University.

Improvements in performance have been focussed on driving down the backlog of applications that are awaiting first reports. Between mid-July and mid-September 2018, the number was reduced from 320 to 68.

At the same time, 96% of new applications received since the start of July have had first reports issued within 20 days of the applications being received. This exceeds the Scottish Government's target which is that 95% of applications shall have 1st reports issue on them within 20 days.