

Report on	Building Control Service Update
Date of Meeting	8 th December 2020
Reporting Officer	William Wilkinson, Head of Building Control

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To advise members on the Service Performance of the Building Control Department during Q1 and Q2 of 2020/21.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Building Control Service has continued to provide a full suite of Services to the public throughout the current Covid-19 pandemic.
2.2	Building Control Officers have been available in each office throughout the current pandemic ensuring where possible, a full service has remained available.
2.3	The primary responsibilities/services provided by Building Control are as noted below:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enforcement of Building Regulations 2. Entertainment Licensing 3. Petroleum Licensing 4. Cinema Licensing 5. Approval of places for Civil Marriages and/or Civil Partnerships 6. Property Certificates 7. Street Naming and Property Numbering 8. Dual Language Nameplate Signage 9. Energy Performance of Building Regulations 10. Dangerous Structures
3.0	Main Report
3.1	During Q1 of the lockdown, the number of applications reduced significantly in relation to Building Regulation applications as well as Property Certificate applications. However, it can be noted that in Q2 as the lockdown relaxed, the number of applications and associated income has shown a steady increase.
3.2	Table 1 shows the Building Regulation applications income as well as Property Certificate applications income to October 2020 of the 2020/21 year as compared to the income received to October 2019 of the 2019/20 year.

Table 1

	Income for 2019/20	Income for 2020/21	Property Certs 2019/20	Property Certs 2020/21
April	£80,366	£48,972	176	50
May	£73,147	£46,195	242	89
June	£75,432	£54,464	164	130
July	£75,660	£52,722	171	142
August	£67,265	£53,110	178	145
September	£86,273	£64,218	209	229
October	£63,750	£68,622	183	232
			Total - 1323	Total - 1017
Income T.D.	£521,893	£388,303	£79,380	£71,190

3.3

The data for the month of October 2020 clearly indicates a continued strong performance of the construction sector in Mid Ulster.

3.4

From a Building Regulation perspective as well as Property Certificate applications received, it should be noted that both areas of responsibility are now on par or out-performing the corresponding period in 2019/20. However, due the initial lockdown, the overall income achieved by the Department for the Building Regulation function shows a reduction of 25% and in relation to Property Certificate applications, a reduction of income in the region of 10% when compared with 2019/20.

3.5

With regards to licensing, the applications for the renewal of petroleum licences have remained at a similar level to previous years. However, it should be noted that with regards to Entertainment Licensing, the number of applications have reduced by approximately 20%. It is anticipated that many of the premises will apply for the Grant of a new Entertainment Licence when it is evident that the current pandemic issues show improvement or are under control.

3.6

The remaining areas of responsibility within the Building Control Service which are not fee borne, are being administered as required with all demands for the service in these areas being provided.

4.0

Other Considerations

4.1

Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications

Financial: As noted in 3.1

Human: Within current resources

Risk Management: Issues as identified

4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None
	Rural Needs Implications: None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That members note the content of the report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	None.