



An  
Bord  
Pleanála

## **Publication of An Bord Pleanála's Annual Report and Accounts 2020.**

**14 December 2021**

An Bord Pleanála's Annual Report and Accounts for 2020 were published today.

### **Planning Casework**

The Board saw a slight drop in the overall number of planning cases lodged with it over 2020, with a total of 2,753 cases received, down 6% on 2019 figures (2,938 cases). Similarly, the 2,628 cases decided by the Board in 2019 marked a 12% decrease on the previous year's total.

### **Normal Planning Appeals (NPA's)**

Planning appeals (1,956 cases) accounted for over 71% of all cases received in 2020, with two-thirds of all appeals relating to residential developments, ranging in scale from home extensions and improvements to single house and multi-unit development proposals. Despite the Covid-19 impacts, compliance with the 18-week SOP continued in an upward trend from 39% in 2018 to 69% in 2019, and 76% in 2020.

### **Strategic Housing Development (SHD)**

2020 also saw another busy year for large-scale strategic housing development (SHD), with 112 valid applications received by the Board, slightly down on the 119 applications received in the previous year. However, there was a significant increase in the SHD cases decided, with 126 applications decided (up from 82 in 2019). While 28 applications were refused permission, the remaining 98 development proposals approved by the Board provide for 25,400 new residential units, including houses, apartments as well as shared accommodation. All SHD decisions were made within the 16-week statutory timeline (24 weeks where an oral hearing was held).

### **Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID)**

24 applications were received in 2020, down slightly on the 26 cases lodged in 2019, and 19 SID cases were decided, compared with 21 cases last year. The Board received a total of 50 pre-application consultation requests during 2020, 12 more than were lodged in 2019, with 45 pre-application cases also determined during 2020.

In publishing the 2020 Annual Report and Accounts, Dave Walsh, Chairperson of An Bord Pleanála, indicated that

*“Despite the continued impacts of Covid-19 in 2021 overall performance was maintained in the first half of the year, however the latter part of the year has seen compliance rates slowly falling with an expected compliance rate at year end to be in the region of 55%. This is largely due to an increase in case intake which stands at 2978 at end of November and complexity of cases. Overall intake is expected to be in the region of 3,200 cases for the full year 2021”*

An Bord Pleanála’s Annual Report is available [here](#)

Ends