

Ref: EIR / 1600

17 January 2018

Mr 21 Clearwater Waterside Derry **BT47 6BE**

Email: @.com

Dear Mr

Environmental Information Regulations 2004 Request on Retrospective Planning Applications

I refer to your EIR request as above and respond as follows:

Request:

- How many retrospective planning applications has planning received since being taken over by Derry and Strabane District Council:
- How many of these were denied retrospective planning permission:
- How many retrospective planning permissions were received from properties that have already received planning, while in breach of their original Planning:

Response:

The Council has undertaken a search of its records held by the planning office in relation to the points raised above and can confirm that it holds relevant recorded information. However, the Planning Office have advised this information is held only in individual file hard copy format and therefore to extract the information required would require a manual examination of all planning files held.

Strabane

Council deem it manifestly unreasonable to produce this information and therefore claim exemption as outlined in regulation 12(4)(b) of the Environmental Information Regulations:

"Regulation 12(4)(b)

 dealing with a request would create unreasonable costs or an unreasonable diversion of resources;"

Please note we consider this exception to be concerned with the nature of the request and the impact of dealing with it and not any adverse effect that might arise from disclosure of the content of the information requested. The public interest in maintaining this exception lies in protecting us from exposure to disproportionate burden and disruption in handling this information request which to comply with would thereby place a strain on resources and get in the way of Council delivering mainstream services

Request:

• What is the procedure when applying for retrospective planning permission:

Response:

The procedure for applying for retrospective planning permission is as per the normal planning application process. This can be found on the planning portal: https://www.planningni.gov.uk/index/advice/fees_forms/notes.htm.

Request:

• How many of these planning permissions were granted.

Response:

Since 1st April 2015 Council has approved 53 retrospective planning applications to rectify breaches of planning control investigated by Councils Planning Enforcement Section.

Request:

• Procedure outlining the scale of the breach of original planning that is acceptable when retrospective planning is applied for:

Response:

Retrospective planning applications are considered against relevant planning polices and the existing situation on each individual site is considered in preparing the report against the relevant planning policy(ies).

If you are dissatisfied with our response you have rights of review and appeal; these rights consist of two review processes.

Firstly our internal review procedure is available by contacting:

John Kelpie Chief Executive Derry City and Strabane District Council 98 Strand Road **BT48 7NN** Derry Tel 028 71253253 or email john.kelpie@derrystrabane.com

Secondly, you can appeal directly by contacting the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow CHESHIRE

SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or email: casework@ico.org.uk