



Department for

**Infrastructure**

An Roinn

**Bonneagair**

[www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk](http://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk)

**From the Permanent Secretary  
Katrina Godfrey**

William Humphrey MBE MLA  
Chairperson  
Public Accounts Committee  
Northern Ireland Assembly

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Your reference:  
Our reference: SCORR-0030-2022  
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Dear Chair

## **PLANNING IN NORTHERN IRELAND**

Thank you for your letter of 4 March requesting more clarity in respect of the 12,500 planning applications processed annually and how many of these applications were successful/unsuccessful.

All valid planning applications are processed to a conclusion: either approval, refusal or are withdrawn by the applicant. Some, of course, take longer than others to process. We have interpreted the definitions of 'successful' to mean the numbers of planning applications that have been approved and 'unsuccessful' to mean the number of applications that have been refused. The numbers and percentages of approvals were provided to the Committee in annex 1 of my response dated 21 February and remain the most up to date statistical position.

If there is a different definition of 'successful' and 'unsuccessful' that the Committee intends us to use, please do let me know and I will do my best to provide the relevant information.

Yours sincerely

**KATRINA GODFREY**