

1. Has the council outsourced its planning department (responsible for town and country planning)? If so, who is responsible for providing these services?
[No.](#)
2. Has the council outsourced any part of its planning services (planning policy, development management, planning enforcement)? If so, who is responsible for providing these services?
[For Development Management and Planning Enforcement, No.](#)
No Services are outsourced for Planning Policy.
3. Please provide details of any company providing statutory planning services or service support for planning to the council. If such provision exists, how long has the company provided services to the council, how long does the contract last for and what is the value of the contract?
N/a this is done in house
Consultancies are used to prepare technical planning documents and provide technical advice to the Council in respect of flood and transport matters as evidence to prepare the Minerals and Waste Local Plans but this does not fall within “statutory planning services” but may do within “service support.” A contract with AECOM for provision of strategic transport advice (Nov2017-May 2018) amounted to c£8000 and a further contract to AECOM (December 2017 – April 2018) for strategic flood risk assessment amounted to c£7000.
4. Are planning officers responsible for delivering the council’s town and country planning responsibilities employed directly by the council? If not, who are they employed by?
[No.](#)
5. Is routine use of private sector consultants made to process planning applications on behalf of the council? If so, which company/companies are used for this and how much was paid for such consultancy in the 2017-18 financial year?
[No, routine use is not made of private sector consultants to process planning applications.](#)
6. Is routine use of private sector consultants made to develop planning policy on behalf of the council? If so, which company/companies are used for this and how much was paid for such consultancy in the 2017-18 financial year?
No n/a
7. Is routine use of private sector consultants made to conduct planning enforcement work on behalf of the council? If so, which company/companies are used for this and how much was paid for such consultancy in the 2017-18 financial year?
[With respect to determining whether enforcement action is initiated, this is a decision made entirely by County Council officers. However, legal advice is often sought from external law firms through the EM Lawshare arrangement on matters relating to the drafting and serving of enforcement notices \(if such advice is not given by County Council lawyers\) and external lawyers can also attend inquiries at court if required.](#)