Oifig an Rialaitheora Pleanála
Office of the Planning Regulator

Learnings from OPR Reviews of Local Authorities

Marian Hutchin, Planning Officer, Reviews and Examinations

Highlights from Reviews

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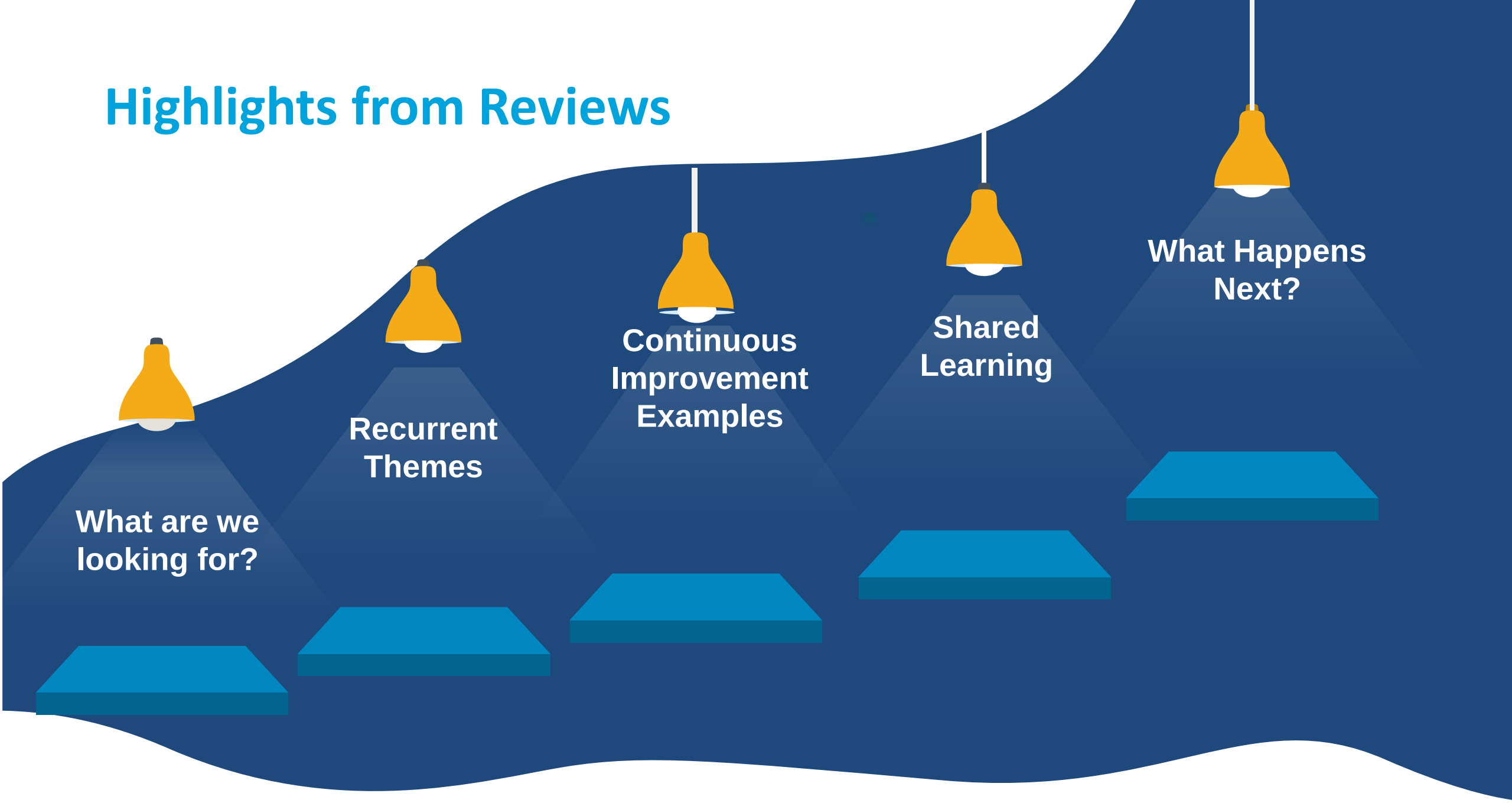
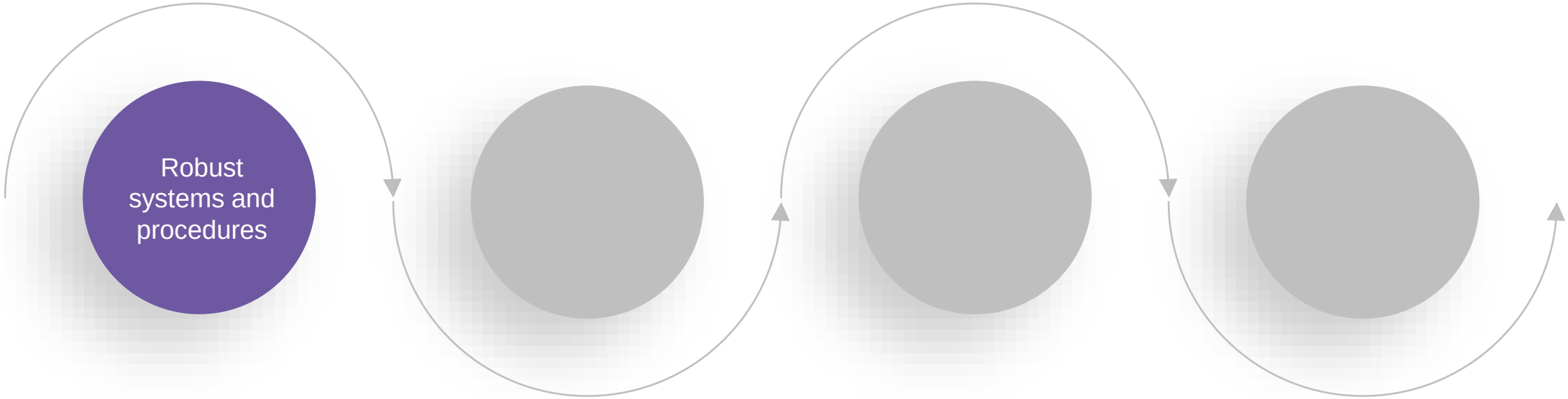
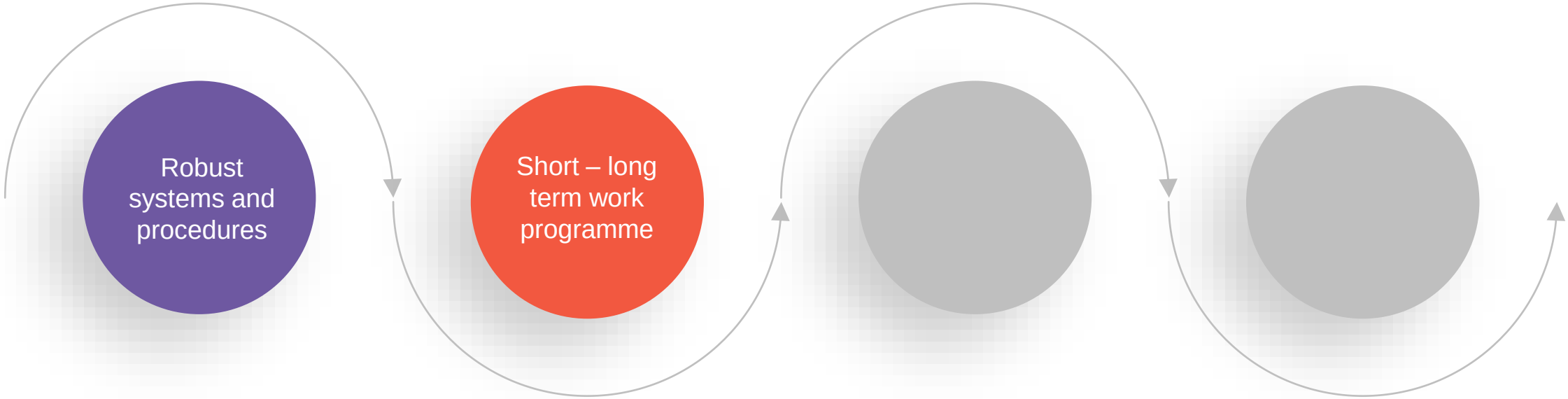


What are we looking for?



Robust systems and procedures to meet statutory requirements

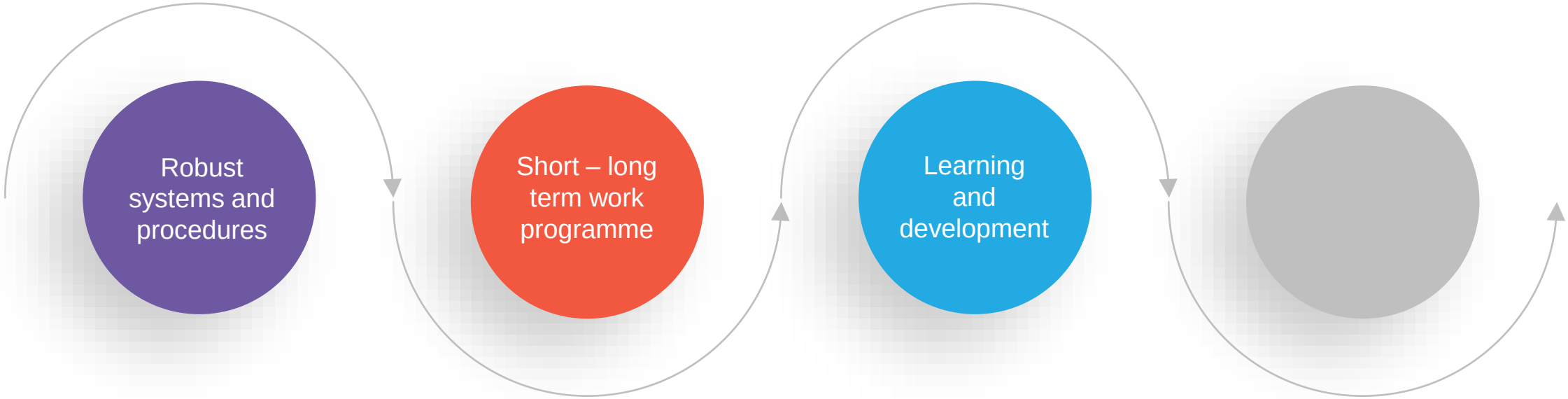
What are we looking for?



Robust systems and procedures to meet statutory requirements

Projected work demands for priority deliverables

What are we looking for?



Robust systems and procedures to meet statutory requirements

Projected work demands for priority deliverables

Supporting staff to enhance skills and keep up to date with planning requirements

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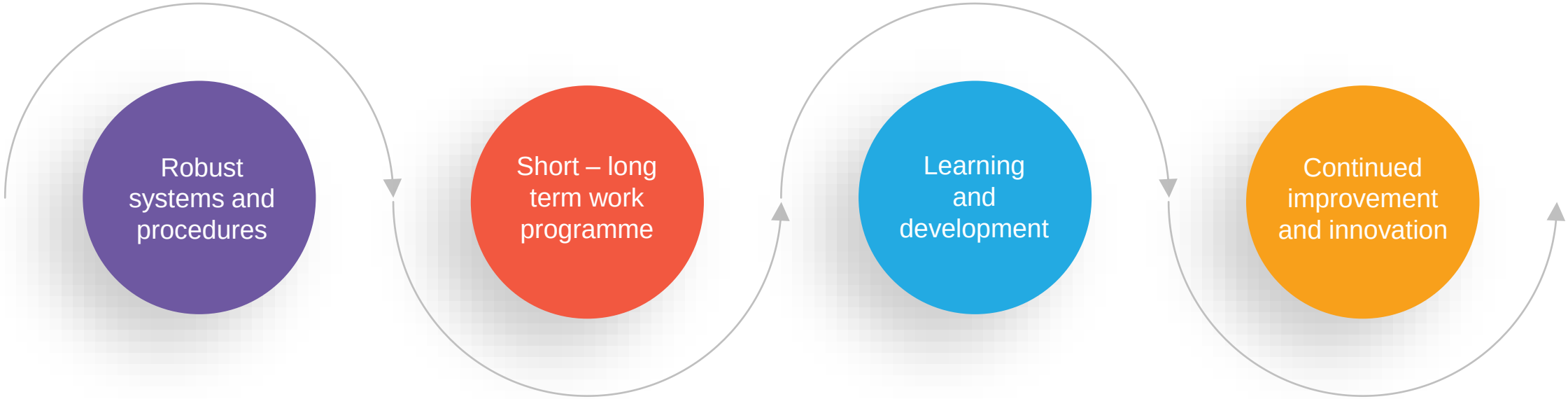


Robust systems and procedures to meet statutory requirements

Projected work demands for priority deliverables

Supporting staff to enhance skills and keep up to date with planning requirements

Proactively enhance service delivery

Recurrent themes

01 Staff capacity, retention, recruitment and additional resources

02 Keeping up to date with new regulations, policies and practice

03 Ensuring procedures are in place and training is provided

04 Prioritising enforcement activities

05 Dedicated resources and proactive public engagement

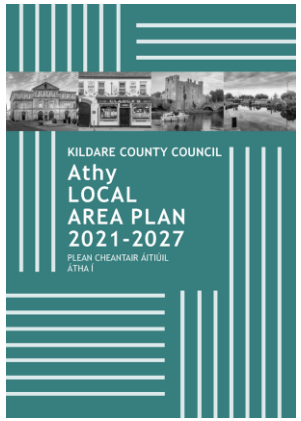
06 Ensuring efficient data management

Continued improvement and innovation

Local Area Plan preparation

Urban Regeneration Framework

Area Based Transport Assessment



Public participation in plan making

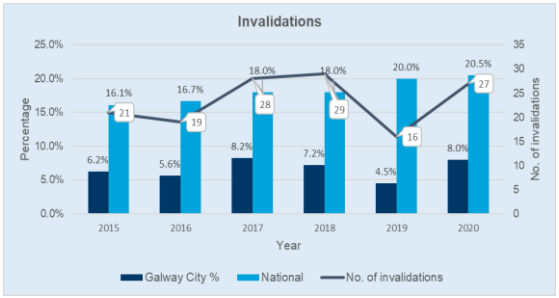
Virtual consultation room and podcast series

Commitment to enhancing public participation and developing best practice

Validations of planning applications

Significantly below national average

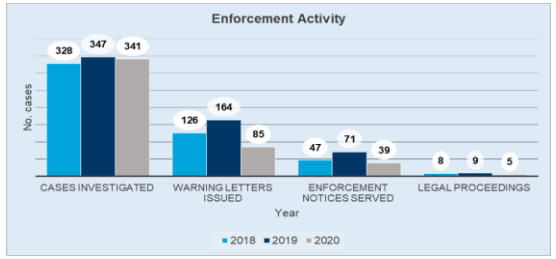
Face to face meetings



Invalidations minimised, timely public display

Enforcement

Robust systems and procedures



Increased effort to tackle enforcement cases

Land activation

Dedicated Strategic Projects and Public realm Team

Successful URDF, RRDF, TVRS applications and project implementation

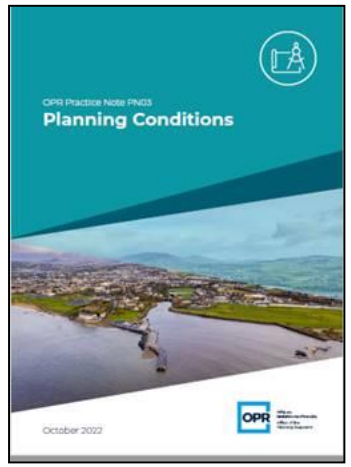
Partnership approach

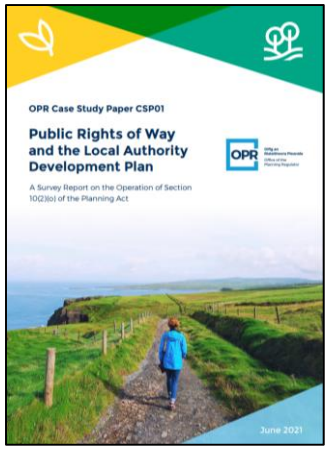
e-Planning initiative

Pilot authority for trialling initiative

Enhanced range of online planning services

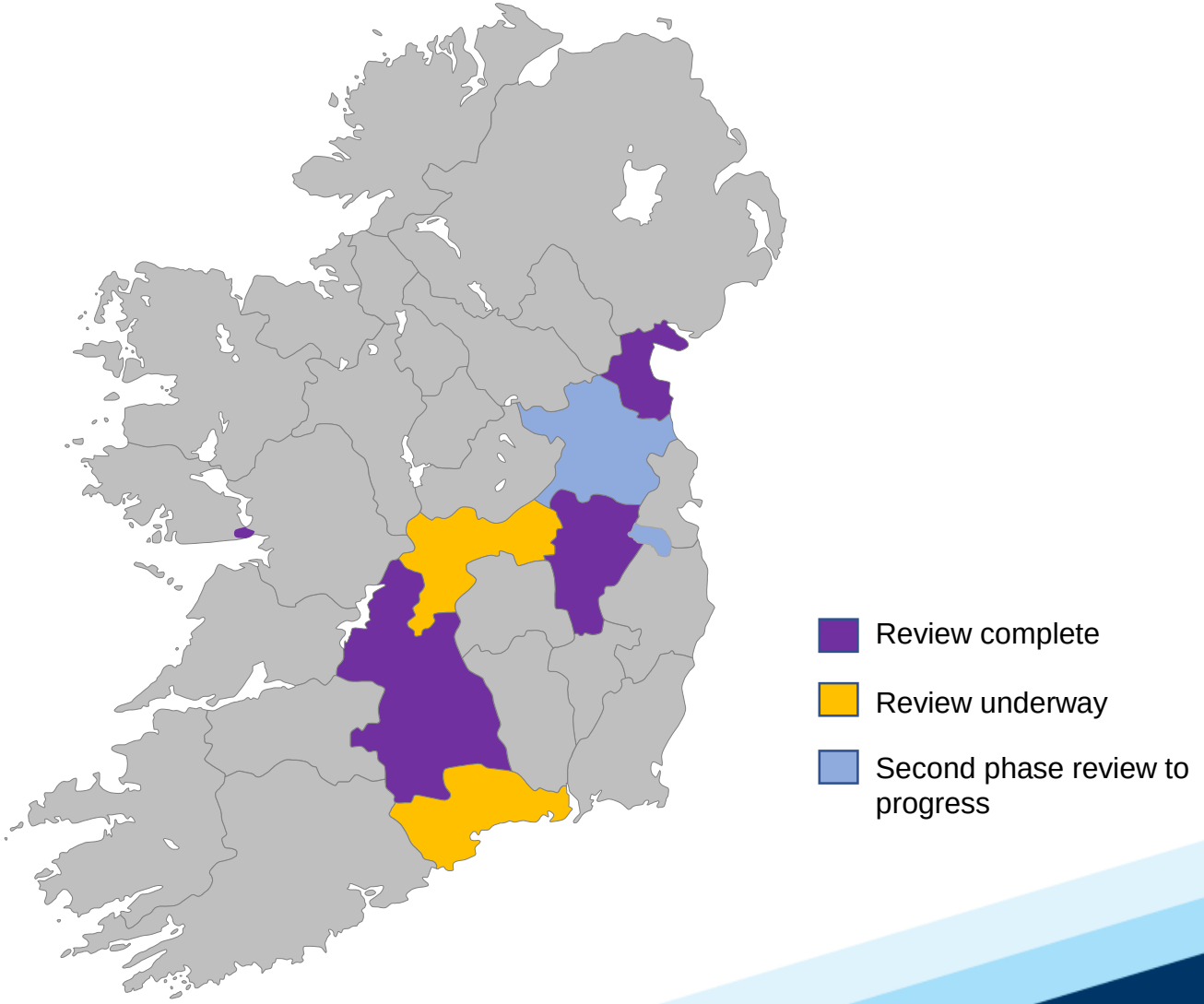
Shared learnings





What happens next?

- Continued implementation and monitoring
- Continuing draft report preparation for ‘in progress’ reviews
- Initiation of next second phase reviews
- Identify local authorities for next phase of reviews



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Thank you