

# Environmental and Development Services Performance Action Plan - Year End 2018 - 19

## Appendix C

**Theme** – People

**Action** – PE5.2 - % of collected waste recycled and composted.

**Annual target** - >50%

**Performance** - 45%

**Trend (compared to last quarter)** - 39.8% achieved in Quarter 4 2018/19



45%

% of collected  
waste recycled  
and  
composted.

**Target** - >50%

**Background** - The exceptional weather conditions have led to a significant reduction in the amount of green waste sent for composting, around 8% less than the average for the year. Encouragingly, recycling tonnages are slightly higher than the corresponding quarter in 2017/18.

The current recycling and composting schemes have been in place since 2013 and 1996 respectively. Whilst at the commencement of both schemes recycling and composting increased significantly, performance on both have stabilised but are not improving. Previous years outturns have been around 48%. The general trend nationally has been for tonnages to slightly decline.

**Key actions underway** – Operational Services will continue to work through the Derbyshire Waste Partnership on promoting recycling and composting and work with current contractor on ensuring compliance from residents on presenting acceptable materials.

**Opportunities/risks** – Initial planning for the introduction of the next recycling collection contract has commenced, as approved by Environmental and Development Services Committee. Operational Services will further explore joint working with other collection authorities and the waste disposal authority.



85%

Number of  
planning  
decisions  
made over time  
taken.

**Target** - 90%

**Theme** – Place

**Action** – PL1.4 Number of planning decisions made in time over number of decisions made.

**Q4 target** 90%

**Performance** 85%

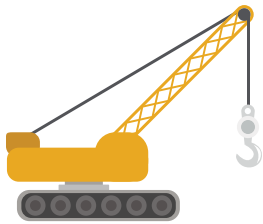
**Annual target** 90%.

**Background** - This figure is made up of three individual elements: major applications, minor applications and other applications. The latter category contains householder applications which make up about 65% of all the decisions made. This area of work is covered by a team of three officers one full-time equivalent (FTE), two job-shares = one FTE).

**Key actions underway** – Over the last two quarters, two of the three officers have been signed off from work due to long term illness. It has taken some time for a diagnosis and therefore to calculate a mitigation strategy to address workload pressures. One of the posts has not returned to work from illness from absence initiated in November. Also during this time the development management section has seen two other professional officer vacancies which were subsequently filled in Quarter 3. In the short-term an agency planner started in Quarter 4 on a full- time basis to address capacity issues. This leaves other members of staff to cover as far as is practicable. Nevertheless, notwithstanding efforts by the team to assist in covering the vacancies, decisions have slipped for the quarter to 5% below target (similar to that in Quarter 3).

The Council has recently secured two temporary contractors to start soon to replace the agency staff contract which should help to improve performance in the first half of 2019/20.

**Opportunities/risks** – Opportunities are few. A shortage of professional officers in this part of the team cannot be easily compensated. However, the risk of falling below target again for the first half of the year should be mitigated to some extent with the current strategy.



89%

Further improve the design quality of developments in South Derbyshire.

Target - 90%

**Theme** – Place

**Action** – PL1.6 Further improve the design quality of developments in South Derbyshire.

**Annual target** - 90%

**Performance** - 89%

**Background** -A number of years ago the Council decided to adopt a 'quality' measure for all new major housing developments. At the time the Building for Life Standard comprising 20 criteria was the industry standard. Although the criteria have now changed, the Council considers that the original standard is still the most 'testing' for gauging the quality of new housing developments and therefore retains it as a preferred measure.

**Key actions underway** – Nine developments were tested using the 20 criteria and of those only one fell short of the 'good' standard. Although this is a very high compliance rate it remains that the target could only have been reached with all nine schemes reaching the high standard rendering the margin for non-compliance obsolete. As such the current target is probably too prone to the highly geared nature of the statistic and as such needs reviewing going forward.

**Opportunities/risks** – The opportunity exists to update the standard and to feed the results of the past year into the review mechanism for the Council's lead design officer to consider.



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Submission of Local Green Spaces Document to the Planning Inspectorate.

Target - 1

**Theme** – Place

**Action** – Deliver key development plan documents to accompany adopted South Derbyshire Local Plan, parts 1 and 2.

**Q4 target** Submission of Local Green Spaces Document to the Planning Inspectorate  
**Performance** Document not submitted.

**Annual target** Deliver key development plan document to adopted South Derbyshire Local Plan, parts 1 and 2.

**Background** - The Local Green Spaces Development Plan Document (DPD) is subordinate to the adopted Local Plan but as a DPD carries significant weight when determining applications once adopted. The Consultation stage for this document finished on 19 March 2019. Subsequently a couple of issues came up on which the Council needed to consult with the Planning Inspectorate thus slightly delaying submission.

**Key actions underway**

The intention now is to submit the document for adoption to the Planning Inspectorate in May 2019. The Council will then await the outcome of an Examination in Public and any subsequent modifications required/recommended.

**Opportunities/risks**

There is an opportunity now for the document to be adopted before the end of the year. The main risk would be if an unforeseen problem with the process was to arise thereby delaying the adoption.  
**Key actions underway** – The document was presented to committee early in Q4.

There are four actions for Environmental and Development Services