
REPORT TO:	Development Control Committee	AGENDA ITEM: 4
DATE OF MEETING:	30 th July 2002	CATEGORY: Open
REPORT FROM:	Deputy Chief Executive	OPEN PARAGRAPH NO:
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	John Birkett (Ext. 5742)	DOC:8week 3-02.doc
SUBJECT:	Development Control Statistics for the First Quarter of 2002 (Jan. to March)	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	All	

1.0 Recommendation

- 1.1 That Members note the report

2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 To publicise the statistics on the volume and speed of decision making on planning applications made to the Council and to compare those with other Authorities in Derbyshire, the immediate neighbours and the C.I.P.A. family group.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 Statistics, published quarterly by the Government are summarised in the attached table. These indicate that the Council has all but maintained its position relative to other authorities. The Council's speed of determination compares favourably with the national average of 65%. The speed of turn around has dropped by 1% from 75% over the year and 2% from 75% over the quarter when compared with the same periods for 2000/2001. At the same time the cases dealt with rose by 67 or 6%, reflecting a continuously rising workload that is exactly matched nationally as it happens. Indeed, applications received to date in 2002, projected forward to the end of the year would produce a further 6.5% increase over last year. Members are advised that this factor and the recent staff vacancies have combined to produce a severe drop in the eight week turn around for the quarter just ended (54%).
- 3.2 The percentage of applications delegated is a new P.I. that the Government expects Council's to report. With notable exceptions such as Derby City, Bolsover and Mid Bedfordshire, there does appear to be a positive correlation between speed of decision making and delegation.

4.0 Background Papers

- 4.1 Statistical Release PA-Q1 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister