
**REPORT TO: DEVELOPMENT CONTROL
COMMITTEE**

**AGENDA
ITEM:**

5

DATE OF MEETING: 11 February 2003

CATEGORY: OPEN

REPORT FROM: DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

MEMBERS'

CONTACT POINT: Tony Sylvester (EXT. 5743)

**SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENT CONTROL STATISTICS FOR
THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2002 (JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2002)**

WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALL

1.0 Recommendation

1.1 That the report be noted.

2.0 Purpose of the Report.

2.1 To advise members of the receipt of statistics regarding the speed of decision making on planning applications made to the Council and to illustrate these against those of other authorities in Derbyshire, neighbouring authorities and authorities in this Council's nearest neighbour comparative group of authorities. Also to advise members of the current performance of development control as measured against the published Development Control Charter.

3.0 Detail

3.1 Statistics have recently been released by government setting out the speed of decision making of Local Planning Authorities in England for the quarter ending 30 September 2002.

3.2 In the quarter to 30 September 2002 the figures show that nationally 65% of all planning applications were determined within eight weeks. This shows no change on the corresponding quarter in 2001.

3.3 South Derbyshire determined 56 % of applications in eight weeks in that period. This was marginally the lowest in Derbyshire for the quarter (the next lowest being Amber Valley at 57%) but better than three other authorities in the CIPFA group.

3.4 In the year to 30 September 2002 the figures show that nationally 66% of all planning applications were determined within eight weeks. South Derbyshire determined 63% of its applications in eight weeks that period. This was the equal lowest in Derbyshire (Erewash was also 63%).

3.5 The results for South Derbyshire, other neighbouring authorities and the council's nearest neighbours are shown in the table attached at Table A.

3.6 It is worth noting that the figure for this quarter corresponds with the forecast set out in the statistics report to the Committee of 17 December 2002 and marks the final period affected by staff vacancies and subsequent introduction of new officers.

3.7 Also attached at table B is the first set of figures which monitor the performance of the Development Control function. This is the first time that such figures have been reported since the introduction of the Charter. They show three of the eight target results. Of the remaining five targets not reported here one is an enforcement performance target (due to be reported later in the year with other enforcement data) and three relate to consultation and acknowledgement response times. The current reporting software is finding it difficult to report on these. However, further work on this is on going. The remaining target relates to replies to informal advice or information which is currently not recorded.

4.0 **Background Papers:** Statistical Release Information Bulletin PA-Q3 ODPM.
Planning Services Development Control Charter.

TABLE A

Planning authority	Year ending 30 September 2002			July to September 2002			Percentage of decisions delegated to officers
	Total decisions	Per cent granted	Per cent within 8 weeks	Total decisions	Per cent granted	Per cent within 8 weeks	
Derbyshire							
Amber Valley	1168	95	66	282	98	57	81
Bolsover	516	91	71	123	93	69	85
Chesterfield	707	94	65	204	92	60	
Erewash	897	91	63	224	87	58	82
High Peak	912	87	74	236	88	77	87
North East Derbyshire	1141	87	75	245	91	78	84
South Derbyshire	1231	91	63	312	89	56	90
Derbyshire Dales	819	86	72	247	86	69	84
Derby UA	1473	92	67	406	90	66	92
CIPFA Group							
Mid Bedfordshire	1689	86	50	528	78	56	71
Rochford	885	81	81	231	77	83	94
Forest of Dean	1393	90	80	366	92	86	95
Hinckley and Bosworth	1171	88	69	281	89	73	85
Melton	746	86	80	192	86	75	83
North Kesteven	1326	94	66	388	95	64	83
Daventry	1,117	88	67	331	88	66	80
East Northamptonshire	870	93	54	244	94	39	75
South Northamptonshire	1513	82	59	399	83	57	93
Staffordshire Moorlands	997	81	72	293	77	80	17
Lichfield	978	84	61	346	84	53	83
Babergh	1562	90	66	476	89	70	86
North Warwickshire	801	87	72	193	87	85	91
Adjoining Authorities							
North West Leicestershire	1,100	84	60	323	86	63	66
East Staffordshire	1,297	89	66	400	93	74	81

Table B

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL CHARTER TARGETS (OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2002)

TARGET DESCRIPTION	TARGET	ACTUAL
APPLICATION SITE VISITS WITHIN 15 WORKING DAYS	90%	75%
APPLICATIONS DECIDED IN 8 WEEKS	80%	76%
DECISION NOTICES SENT OUT WITHIN 2 DAYS	90%	99%

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