REPORT TO: DEVELOPMENT CONTROL
COMMITTEE   AGENDA   5
                                             ITEM:

DATE OF MEETING: 16 December 2003
                                             CATEGORY: OPEN
REPORT FROM: DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

MEMBERS'
CONTACT POINT: Tony Sylvester (EXT. 5743)

SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENT CONTROL STATISTICS FOR
              THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2003/2004 (April to June 2003)
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.

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 June 2003.

3.2   In the quarter to 30 June 2003 the figures show that nationally 72% of all planning
      applications were determined within eight weeks. This shows a rise of 5% on the
      corresponding quarter in 2002.

3.3   South Derbyshire determined 76% of applications in eight weeks in that period. This
      was the fourth highest in Derbyshire for the quarter (the highest being Bolsover at 92%
      followed by High Peak at 85%). The figure also compares well to other authorities in the
      CIPFA group.

3.4   In the year to 30 June 2003 the figures show that nationally 72% of all planning
      applications were determined within eight weeks. South Derbyshire determined 76% of
      its applications in eight weeks that period. This was better than Amber Valley, North
      East Derbyshire, Derbyshire Dales and Derby City Council but below all others in
      Derbyshire. However, the number of decisions made was only exceeded by Derby
      City.

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.

4.0   **Background Papers:** Statistical Release Information Bulletin PA-Q2 ODPM.