
**REPORT TO: DEVELOPMENT CONTROL
COMMITTEE**

AGENDA ITEM: 5

DATE OF MEETING: 17 June 2003

CATEGORY: OPEN

REPORT FROM: DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

MEMBERS'

CONTACT POINT: Tony Sylvester (EXT. 5743)

**SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENT CONTROL STATISTICS FOR
THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2002 (OCTOBER TO DECEMBER)**

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 31 December 2002.
- 3.2 In the quarter to 31 December 2002 the figures show that nationally 67% of all planning applications were determined within eight weeks. This shows a rise of 2% on the corresponding quarter in 2001.
- 3.3 South Derbyshire determined 77 % of applications in eight weeks in that period. This was the highest in Derbyshire for the quarter (the next highest being N.E Derbyshire at 71%). The figure also compares well to other authorities in the CIPFA group.
- 3.4 In the year to 31 December 2002 the figures show that nationally 66% of all planning applications were determined within eight weeks. South Derbyshire determined 64% of its applications in eight weeks that period. This was better than Erewash, equal to Amber Valley and below all others in Derbyshire.
- 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 shows a marked improvement on the previous two quarters largely due to full staffing and settlement of full time area officers. Nevertheless, it also represents the continuing commitment of all staff in the division to the delivery of a quality service at a time when applications received continue to rise and workloads increase exponentially.



TABLE A

Planning authority	Year ending 31 December 2002			October to December 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	1167	96	64	279	95	62	80
Bolsover	509	90	70	145	86	68	94
Chesterfield	706	95	66	177	97	65	80
Erewash	902	90	61	232	92	63	72
High Peak	916	87	75	212	86	75	83
North East Derbyshire	1149	88	76	264	89	71	77
South Derbyshire	1262	91	64	332	91	77	90
Derbyshire Dales	839	86	69	210	84	67	75
Derby UA	1542	92	65	415	92	61	91
CIPFA Group							
Mid Bedfordshire	1774	87	56	492	86	64	83
Rochford	944	82	81	280	81	81	93
Forest of Dean	1446	89	83	377	86	84	94
Hinckley and Bosworth	1190	89	74	296	88	82	89
Melton	735	86	80	156	87	81	87
North Kesteven	1398	93	66	392	91	70	71
Daventry	1135	89	67	245	91	64	84
East Northamptonshire	914	93	49	240	91	45	72
South Northamptonshire	1633	83	61	468	83	62	90
Staffordshire Moorlands	1061	81	75	230	81	73	9
Lichfield	1317	84	62	339	84	65	83
Babergh	1590	90	68	411	87	71	81
North Warwickshire	763	88	75	148	90	77	93
Adjoining Authorities							
North West Leicestershire	1169	85	54	291	84	50	60
East Staffordshire	1530	91	72	478	93	75	90

