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| REPORT TO: | DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE | AGENDA ITEM: | 5 |
| DATE OF MEETING: | 12^h February 2001 | CATEGORY: | OPEN |
| REPORT FROM: | DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE | | |
| MEMBERS' | | | |
| CONTACT POINT: | Adrian Kirkham (Ext. 5743) | DOC: | |
| SUBJECT: | DEVELOPMENT CONTROL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30th SEPTEMBER 2001 AND THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2001 (JULY TO SEPTEMBER) | REF: AK | |

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 both the year ending 30th September 2001 and the quarter ending 30th September 2001.

3.2 In the quarter to 30th September 2001 the figures show that nationally 65% of all planning applications were determined within eight weeks in the quarter. This shows a 2% increase in the figure compared to the corresponding quarter in 2000. However, only 42 authorities surpassed the target set by the government of deciding 80% of planning applications in 8 weeks.

3.3 South Derbyshire determined 72 % of applications in eight weeks in that period. This was the fifth highest in Derbyshire for the quarter and fifth in the C.I.P.F.A group.

3.4 In the year to 30th September 2001 the figures show that nationally 63% of all planning applications were determined within eight weeks. South Derbyshire determined 75% of its applications in eight weeks that period. This was the highest in Derbyshire (joint with North East Derbyshire) and third in the C.I.P.F.A. group behind Melton and Forest of Dean.

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 Notwithstanding the matters noted above government has determined that the speed of decision making of Local Planning Authorities will be measured in an amended form from April 2002. The targets set by central government will be that 60% of major applications should be determined within 13 weeks of receipt, 65% of minor applications should be determined within 8 weeks of receipt and that 80% of all other applications should be dealt with within 8 weeks of receipt.

4.0 Background Papers

- 4.1 DETR Information Bulletin PA-Q3 and No.542 both dated 14th December 2001 and letter from DTLR dated 15th November 2001.