

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

FROM: Head of Planning (Control)

REPORT NUMBER **F15**

TO: DEVELOPMENT

DATE OF MEETING 26 April 2006

PLANNING PERFORMANCE

1. **SUMMARY**

1.1 This reports advises committee on the performance figures expected by central government and Babergh's performance against set targets

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 That the report be noted

2.2 That the Head of Planning (Control) makes reports on this basis to committee, for noting, every quarter.

3. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 There are no direct financial implications resulting from this report. However the subject it addresses does have financial implications for the Council, particularly in the size of Planning Delivery Grant

4. **KEY INFORMATION**

4.1 The government considers development control performance in terms of speed of decision-making. For this purpose, applications are divided into three groups; Major, minor and "other" developments. Major applications are those which propose new buildings of over 1000 sq m., or which occupy a site in excess of 1 hectare or more than 10 dwellings (or the change of use of sites or buildings of that size). Minor developments are the same as major, but below the size thresholds; other developments include householder development, advertisement consent and listed building consent, and some changes of use.

4.2 ODPM sets targets for the level of performance and rewards good performance (or improvement) in the annual Planning Delivery Grant and subjects poor performing authorities to the Planning Performance Standards (PPS), which involves close supervision by the Government Office, and in extreme cases, intervention.

4.3 Speed is measured in terms of the percentage of decisions made within 8 weeks of receipt (13 weeks in the case of major applications). The following table shows relevant targets, and performance. It is hoped to update this report on a quarterly basis so that committee is informed of the progress of the Council in this regard.

TABLE

TYPE	MAJOR		MINOR		OTHER	
	number	% in 13 wks	number	% in 8 wks	number	% in 8 wks
ODPM TARGET		60		65		80
BABERGH SUGGESTED TARGET (BPR)		65		75		85
UPPER QUARTILE NATIONALLY 2004/05		69		75		88
PPS THRESHOLD		50		55		70
BDC ACTUAL 2004/05	29	59	430	58	1330	74
BDC ACTUAL 2005/06	37	68	419	70	1263	84
BDC ACTUAL Jan-Mar 2006	8	88	84	79	264	80

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