

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

FROM: Chief Planning Control Officer

REPORT NUMBER: **H69**

TO: DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE OF MEETING: 23 July 2008

PLANNING PERFORMANCE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides an overview of the number of planning applications and appeals currently being considered by the Planning Control Section and an indication of performance against Government indicators.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the information contained within this report be noted.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There are no direct financial implications anticipated.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 There are no significant risks anticipated.

5. KEY INFORMATION

- 5.1 This quarterly report shows the performance of the Planning Control Service against BVPI 109: The Determination of Planning Applications (since replaced by National Performance Indicator 157) and the former BVPI 204: Planning Appeals (which has been retained as a local performance indicator).

- 5.2 Current Government performance indicators require all local planning authorities to determine:

- 60% of major applications within a period of 13 weeks. Since 1 April 2008, however; the major category has been divided into large-scale and small-scale major developments.
- 65% of minor residential and commercial applications (which include proposals for up to 9 dwellings) within a period of 8 weeks; and
- 80% of other applications (which are mainly householder and other smaller applications) within a period of 8 weeks.

- 5.3 Local planning authorities were also required to monitor the number of appeals allowed against the authority's decision to refuse planning applications, as a percentage of the total number of appeals against the refusal of planning applications. This indicator seeks to establish whether local planning authorities are refusing more applications in order to meet development control performance targets. An acceptable threshold is deemed to be 30%.

Applications Received and Determined

- 5.4 Table 1 provides an overview of the number of planning applications that were on hand at the beginning of the last four quarters, the number that were received during the quarter, withdrawn, on hand at the end of the quarter, and actually determined. It also provides details of the number of applications that were determined in accordance with the scheme of delegation expressed as a percentage of all decisions.

TABLE 1	01.07.07 to 30.09.07	01.10.07 to 31.12.07	01.01.08 to 31.03.08	01.04.08 to 30.06.08
Number of applications on hand at beginning of quarter.	397	381	386	376
Number of applications received during quarter	439	418	439	313
Number of applications withdrawn	44	36	35	38
Number of applications on hand at end of quarter.	389	379	383	246
Number of applications determined during quarter	403	384	407	405
Percentage of delegated decisions	92.1	92.7	89.2	89.1

Source: General Development Control PS1 Return

Performance Against Target

- 5.5 Table 2a shows the number of planning applications that were determined during the last four quarters in each of the three categories defined by BVPI 109/NI 157. Table 2b shows how many of these planning applications were determined within the prescribed period as a percentage of all decisions within the relevant category.

TABLE 2A	01.07.07 to 30.09.07	01.10.07 to 31.12.07	01.01.08 to 31.03.08	01.04.08 to 30.06.08
Total number of MAJOR applications determined	15	13	25	24
Total number of MINOR applications determined	94	77	96	78
Total number of OTHER applications determined	292	288	278	300
Miscellaneous decisions not included above	2	6	3	0
Total number of applications determined during quarter	403	384	402	402

Source: General Development Control PS2 Return

TABLE 2B	01.07.07 to 30.09.07	01.10.07 to 31.12.07	01.01.08 to 31.03.08	01.04.08 to 30.06.08
Percentage of MAJOR applications determined on time	86.7	53.9	72.0	83.3
Percentage of MINOR applications determined on time	59.6	61.0	48.9	60.3
Percentage of OTHER applications determined on time	68.0	79.3	80.0	82.3

Source: General Development Control PS2 Return

Planning Fees

- 5.6 Table 3 provides details of the income received from fee generating applications over the last four quarters against the projected income for the quarter.

TABLE 3	01.07.07 to 30.09.07	01.10.07 to 31.12.07	01.01.08 to 31.03.08	01.04.08 to 30.06.08
Number of fee applications received	384	320	330	385
Fees received	88,090	91,780	115,190	112,832.
Projected fee income	103,500	103,500	103,500	113,500
Out turn	(15,410)	(11,720)	11,690	(668)

Source: Departmental Records

- 5.7 As will be noted the income received from planning application fees during the last quarter has been £668 less than expected. The projected income for 2008/09 is £454,000.

Appeals

- 5.8 Table 4 provides details of the number of appeals allowed expressed as a percentage of the total number of appeals determined. All of the applications that were determined by appeal during the last quarter were in response to decisions made in line with the Scheme of Delegation.

TABLE 4	01.07.07 to 30.09.07	01.10.07 to 31.12.07	01.01.08 to 31.03.08	01.04.08 to 30.06.08
Number of appeals allowed.	1	3	2	5
Total number of appeals determined.	8	17	9	11
Percentage of appeals allowed.	13.0	18.0	22.0	45.5

Source: Departmental Records

6. **APPENDICES**

6.1 None.

7. **BACKGROUND PAPERS REFERRED TO:**

7.1 None.

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