

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PERFORMANCE MONITORING

Lead Officer: Tony Pomfret – Development Services Manager

To inform Members of half year Development Control performance in 2008/09 against Best Value performance indicators

Recommendation: That the report be noted

Resource Implications: Nil

1.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 1.1 Speed of Determination of Planning Applications – the following results were achieved.

	2 nd Quarter (July-Sept)	Cumulative (April-Sept)
PI 109 (a) Major planning applications Dealt with <13 weeks Target is 60% Top Quartile is 80.71%	100% (6 out of 6)	92.31% (12 out of 13)
PI 109 (b) Minor planning applications Dealt with <8 weeks Target is 65% Top Quartile is 83.66%	86.27% (44 out of 51)	83.06% (103 out of 124)
PI 109 (c) Other planning applications Dealt with <8 weeks Target is 80% Top Quartile is 92.56%	97.67% (84 out of 86)	94.56% (174 out of 184)

- 1.1.1 It can be seen that all three national targets have been exceeded, with top quartile performance having been achieved in respect of the determination of “major” and “other” applications with “minor” applications having fallen short of top quartile by only 0.6%.
- 1.1.2 Because all of the above three national performance standards for planning were exceeded in 2007/08, confirmation has now been received from the Planning Delivery & Performance Division of DCLG that Copeland is no longer designated as a planning standards authority. The confirmation letter states: -

“As you are aware, your authority was designated as a planning standards authority in 2007/08 for not meeting performance thresholds for processing a proportion of major planning applications submitted to your authority within target times. The duration of the SI was one year from 1 April 2007.

I am very please to note that your authority exceeded all three of the national performance standards for planning in the year to March 2008 (data published on 26 September). This is an excellent achievement and I have much pleasure in confirming that our current formal engagement with your planning service is now concluded.

I look forward to your authority continuing to meet and sustain the national standards. Please accept my congratulations on the hard work of Members and officers in your success to date."

- 1.1.3 It is pleasing to note that the performance has continued to improve through the first half of 2008/09, credit for this commendable achievement largely being due to the excellent team effort from all professional, technical and administrative support staff involved in the complex development control process.
- 1.2 Percentage of Planning Appeals Allowed – this is a local rather than national performance indicator. At the half-year stage, 60% (3 out of 5) planning appeals determined during 2008/09 have been allowed, against a target of 25%. This includes the Pica Wind farm decision, which supported the officer recommendation.

Contact Officer: Tony Pomfret - Development Services Manager

Background Papers: Supporting documentation is available for inspection in the Development Control office