



STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday 9 December 2019

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the planning performance of the Development Management Team in terms of the timescales for determining planning applications.

Is the report Open or Exempt?	Open
Wards Affected:	All
Cabinet Member:	Councillor David Ritchie Cabinet Member for Planning and Coastal Management
Supporting Officer:	Liz Beighton Planning Development Manager 01394 444778 liz.beighton@eastsoffolk.gov.uk

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report provides details on the determination timescales for all planning applications at East Suffolk Council when tested against the government set timescales as well as the East Suffolk Council stretched targets.
- 1.2 The Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are reported on a quarterly basis and included within the East Suffolk Council performance report and tested against the Council's Business Plan.

2 PERFORMANCE STATISTICS

- 2.1 The breakdown for Q1 (April through to end of June 2019) is reported as follows:

	Q1 Percentage	Q1 Total	Targets
Major Development	100%	13/13	60% national 65% stretched
Minor Development	67%	104/154	65% national 75% stretched
Other Development	85%	437/516	80% national 90% stretched

- 2.2 The breakdown for Q2 (June through to end of September 2019) is reported as follows:

	Q2 Percentage	Q2 Total	Targets
Major Development	78%	18/23	60% national 65% stretched
Minor Development	80%	127/159	65% national 75% stretched
Other Development	90%	350/387	80% national 90% stretched

- 2.3 The rolling statistics for both Q1 and Q2 are as follows:

	Combined Percentage	Combined Total	Targets
Major Development	86%	31/36	60% national 65% stretched
Minor Development	74%	213/313	65% national 75% stretched
Other Development	87%	787/903	80% national 90% stretched

- 2.4 The figures show a marked improvement in speed of determinations in both the minor and other classifications with the Council meeting both the national benchmark figures and the locally stretched figures.

- 2.5 It is also important to report that of these applications the approval rates sits above 75% demonstrating that the Councils takes a positive and proactive approach to determining applications in line with guidance contained in the NPPF. Where applications are refused Officers seek to defend those refusals strongly. Members will note the separate appeals report on the SPC agenda which demonstrates confidence that applications are being refused correctly and those decisions are for the most part upheld at appeal, which for note is an 80% dismissal rate with all claims for costs refused.
- 2.6 Officers continue to work proactively with agents to promote the pre-application service to seek to ensure that where applications are submitted they have the right level of information accompanying to enable not only swift decisions on applications.
- 2.7 The Q3 statistics run until the end of December 2019. These will be reported to the March SPC meeting together with an update on the Q4 and yearly statistics cross-referenced against those for the preceding year.

3 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 This report is for information only.

RECOMMENDATION

That the contents of the report be received and noted.

APPENDICES – None

BACKGROUND PAPERS – None