

DELEGATED

AGENDA No.

**REPORT TO PLANNING
COMMITTEE**

DATE 7th MAY 2014

**REPORT OF HEAD OF
PLANNING**

PLANNING PERFORMANCE

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to update members on the current performance of the planning department for the final quarter of 2013/2014.

Recommendation

That planning committee note this quarterly report.

Background

1. DCLG published a draft version of the Single Data List (SDL), which is intended to replace the previous performance management systems – National Indicators, etc. The SDL is a basic catalogue of all the data collections (existing and proposed) that central government departments require from local authorities. There are 152 separate data collection topics within this Single Data List, with 64 of these relating directly to Development and Neighbourhood Services. The large majority of these data collections are already undertaken within services, with only a small number of new data collections proposed.
2. Within the SDL, the data collections that will be required from Planning remain much the same as we report already, and revolve around the performance of managing planning applications, enforcement, green belt land data, previously developed land data and the Annual Monitoring Report for the LDF. There will be 5 data collections and then 41 data topics within the 5 broad collection areas.
3. It is therefore proposed to continue reporting performance to committee in 2013/14 along the lines that we have done already, as CLG have indicated that they wish this particular reporting criteria to remain. The performance level for this year therefore remains at 75% for majors, 80% for minors and 88% for other applications.
4. The reporting timeframe runs from 1st April-31st March each year. This report presents the performance of the final quarter in that period, 1st January to 31st March 2014 and the annual performance for 2013/14.

Current performance position

5. Performance results achieved for the final quarter are 100% for major applications, 89.86% for minor, 94.85% for others and 100% for County matters, achieving above performance in all categories.

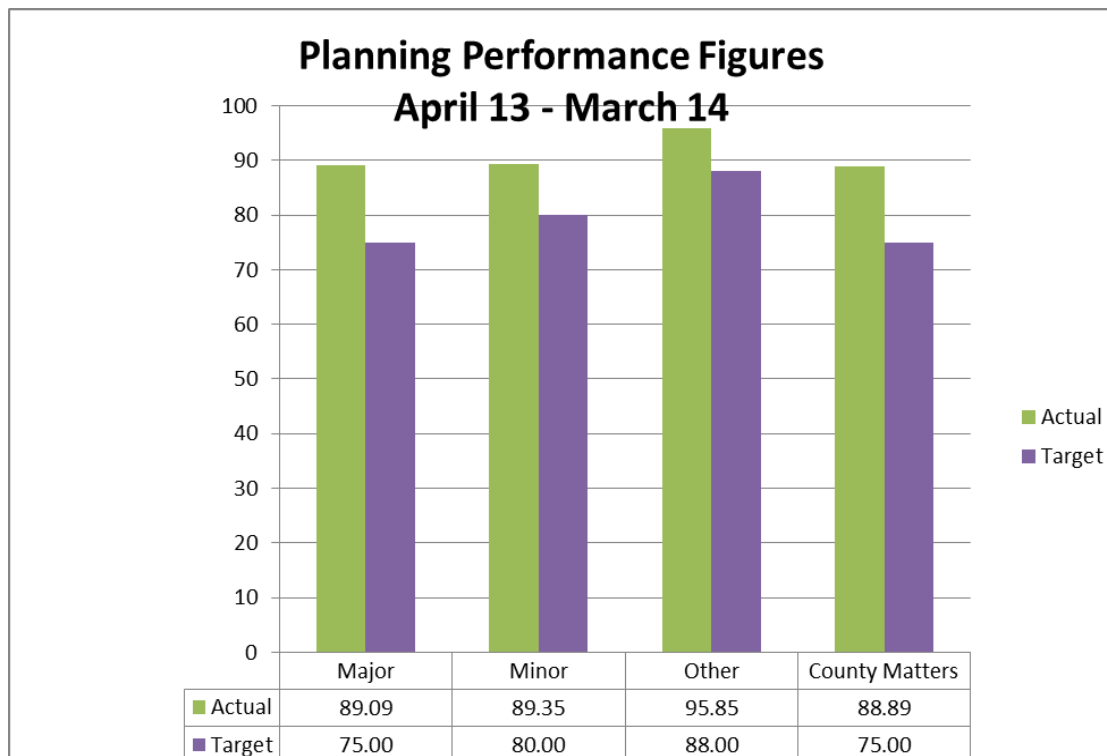
Table 1-Final quarter results

Category	Quarter 4			Target
	Determined	Within Target	Actual	
Major	10	10	100.00	75.00
Minor	69	62	89.86	80.00
Other	136	129	94.85	88.00
County Matters	2	2	100.00	75.00

Table 2-Cumulative annual results April 2013-March 2014

Category	Cumulative April - March			Target
	Determined	Within Target	Actual	
Major	55	49	89.09	75.00
Minor	216	193	89.35	80.00
Other	674	646	95.85	88.00
County Matters	9	8	88.89	75.00

Chart 1-Cumulative performance April 2013–March 2014



6. There were 10 major applications determined within this quarter, all of which were determined in time. Members will note that for the first time we are reporting "County Matters" application. This has come about because the type of applications which were previously determined by the former Cleveland County Council and now determined by Stockton Borough Council as unitary authority, mainly waste and mineral type applications, are still meant to be reported separately, whereas we had been mistakenly reporting them under major, minor or others. These will be separated out and reported as such from now on, and the previous records have been adjusted to meet this requirement.

Recommendation

7. That planning committee note this performance report and acknowledge the hard work and dedication of Planning Staff and colleagues within other service areas to determine applications within the target periods and improve performance and the reputation of the Council.

Corporate Director, Development & Neighbourhood Services

Contact Officer: Carol Straughan

Tel: 01642 527027

carol.straughan@stockton.gov.uk

Financial Implications; decrease in income through the increase of PD and prior notifications has budgetary implications for service delivery; changes to the Planning system will place additional budgetary pressures on the service in the future; unknown variable if the authority fails to meet Planning Guarantee targets

Environmental Implications; None directly.

Community Safety Implications; None directly.