

DELEGATED

AGENDA No.

REPORT TO PLANNING
COMMITTEE

DATE 25 MAY 2016

REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF
ECONOMIC GROWTH AND
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

PLANNING PERFORMANCE

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to update members on the current performance of Planning Development Services for the two final quarters and year of 2015/2016.

Recommendation

That planning committee note this six monthly report.

Background

1. In February 2016 the Planning Committee decided that the future reporting of performance to committee would be on a six monthly basis. The performance level for this year therefore remains at 75% for majors, 80% for minors, 88% for other applications and 75% for County matters.
2. The reporting timeframe runs from 1st April-31st March each year. This report presents the performance of the last quarters in that period, 1st October 2015 to 31st March 2016.

Current performance position

3. Performance results achieved for the last two quarters are 91.67% and 92.86% for major applications, 89.96% and 94.44% for minor, 93.55% and 96.53% for others and there were no County matters applications dealt with in that time frame. The results for the last two quarters and the year are as shown in tables 1, 2 and 3 and chart 1.

Table 1

Category	Quarter 3 October 2015- December 2015			
	Determined	Within Target	Actual	Target
Major	12	11	91.67	75.00
Minor	46	40	86.96	80.00
Other	155	145	93.55	88.00
County Matters	0	0	0.00	75.00

Table 2

Quarter 4 January -March 2016

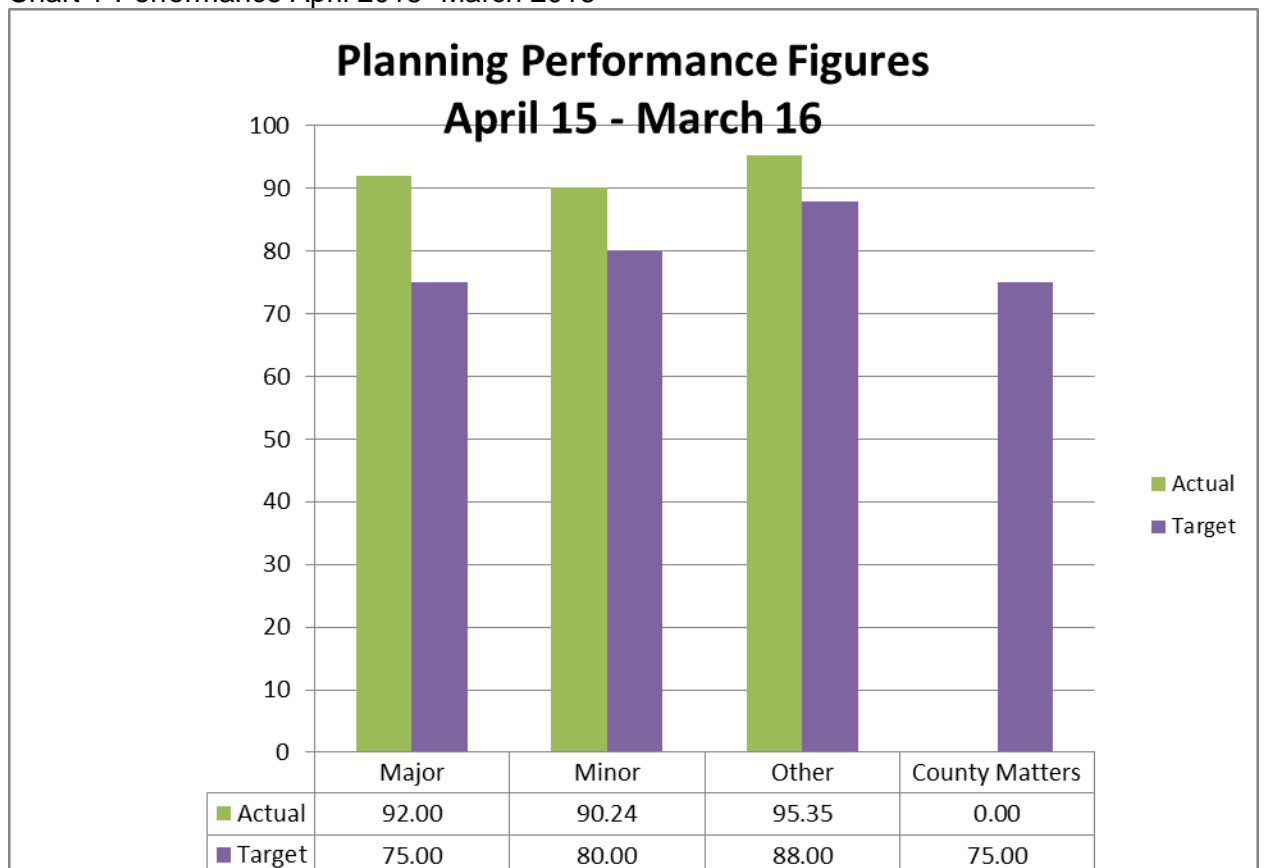
Category	Determined	Within Target	Actual	Target
Major	14	13	92.86	75.00
Minor	36	34	94.44	80.00
Other	144	139	96.53	88.00
County Matters	0	0	0.00	75.00

Table 3

Cumulative April 2015 - March 2016

Category	Determined	Within Target	Actual	Target
Major	50	46	92.00	75.00
Minor	205	185	90.24	80.00
Other	581	554	95.35	88.00
County Matters	0	0	0.00	75.00

Chart 1-Performance April 2015- March 2016



The year ahead 2016-2017

Members will be aware that the Government has proposed measures in the Housing and Planning Bill which will significantly change the planning system by creating a variety of mini-planning systems all alongside each other ranging from, permission in principle via the Brownfield Register, permission in principle via a Local Plan, permission in principle via a Neighbourhood Plan and permission in principle directly. This will be difficult for applicants and the public to understand and navigate. The creation of an "In principle" (non-Brownfield site) planning consent would have a five week timescale to determine, while there would be statutory requirement to require new housing schemes to comprise a nationally set percentage of discounted Starter Homes for first-time buyers.

In addition the Government is also looking at performance measures to assess and ensure that Local Planning Authorities are producing timely and quality planning decisions and precise details are yet to be announced. All the proposed changes will require the service to respond to the challenges presented and Members will be kept informed as and when changes to the Planning system are introduced.

Recommendation

4. That the 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: Barry Jackson

Tel: 01642 526066

barry.jackson@stockton.gov.uk

Financial Implications;

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.