

Report to:	PLANNING COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer :	Gary Johnston - Head of Development Management
Date of Meeting:	26 September 2017

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND APPEALS PERFORMANCE

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To update members of Planning Committee of the Council's performance in relation to Government targets.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To note the report.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To provide the Committee with a summary of current performance.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None the report is for information only.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is both

- "The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool"
- "Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience"

5.0 Background Information

5.1 Members of the Planning Committee will be aware that the Government has set targets for the determination of major and minor category planning applications and major and minor category appeals. These are speed and quality of decision targets and are currently –

Speed of major development decisions – 60% within 13 weeks or an agreed Extension of Time – for the period October 2015 to September 2017.

Speed of minor development decisions – 70% within 8 weeks or an agreed Extension of Time – for the period October 2015 to September 2017.

Quality of major development decisions – Loss of more than 10% of appeals – for the period April 2015 – March 2017.

Quality of non major development decisions – Loss of more than 10% of appeals – for the period April 2015 – March 2017.

5.2 Figures are submitted quarterly to the Department of Communities and Local Government.

5.3 Performance is shown below for August 2017 and the previous available quarter (April –June 2017)

	Government Target	Performance August 2017	Performance April- June 2017
Major development decisions	>60%	100%	83%
Minor development decisions	>70%	93%	93%
Quality of major development decisions	>10%	n/a	n/a
Quality of non major development decisions	> 10%	No appeals allowed	No appeals allowed

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

5.4 **List of Appendices**

5.4.1 None

6.0 **Legal considerations:**

6.1 None

7.0 **Human Resources considerations:**

7.1 Performance is influenced by staffing numbers, sickness and leave.

8.0 **Equalities considerations:**

8.1 None

9.0 **Financial considerations:**

9.1 Poor performance puts the Council at risk of designation and the potential for loss of fee income.

10.0 **Risk management considerations:**

10.1 Under resourcing the service could lead to inability to respond to peaks in workload.

11.0 **Ethical considerations:**

11.1 None

12.0 **Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:**

12.1 Not applicable

13.0 **Background Papers**

13.1 None