

Report to:	PLANNING COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer :	Gary Johnston ,Head of Development Management
Date of Meeting:	14 August 2018

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND APPEALS PERFORMANCE

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To update members of the 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 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.

5.2 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 2016 to September 2018

Speed of minor development decisions – 70% within 8 weeks or an agreed Extension of Time – for the period October 2016 to September 2018

Quality of major development decisions – Loss of more than 10% of appeals – for the period April 2016 – March 2018

Quality of non major development decisions – Loss of more than 10% of appeals – for the period April 2016 – March 2018

5.3 Figures are submitted quarterly to the Ministry of Communities and Local Government. Performance is shown in this case for the first quarter of this year (2018-2019) (April to June 2018). Details of performance for July 2018 will be provided as part of the Update Note.

5.4 The last annual performance figures for applications for the year 2017-2018 was:

Majors 96% within 13 weeks or an agreed extension of time

Minors 97% within 8 weeks or an agreed extension of time

5.5 In terms of appeals for the period April 2016 – March 2018 :

There were 28 decisions of which six non major appeals were lost (21% of the total)

Note: there were no major appeal decisions.

	Government Target	Performance July 2018	Performance April –June 2018
Major development decisions	>60%	Not available at the time of this report	67%
Minor development decisions	>70%	Not available at the time of this report	96%
Quality of major development decisions	<10%	None	None
Quality of non major development decisions	<10%	No appeal decisions in July	2 appeal decisions- one allowed and one dismissed

Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.6 List of Appendices

5.6.1 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