

**Report to:**

**PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**Relevant Officer:**

Susan Parker, Head of Development Management

**Date of Meeting:**

27 February 2024

## **PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND APPEALS PERFORMANCE**

### **1.0 Purpose of the report:**

1.1 To update the Committee of the Council's performance in relation to Government targets. This report reflects performance in the third quarter of the 2023/2024 financial year.

### **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 performance.

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

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

### **4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:**

4.1 None the report is for information only.

### **5.0 Council Priority:**

5.1 This report is relevant to both Council priorities:

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

### **6.0 Background Information**

6.1 The Government sets targets for the speed of planning decisions.

- Major applications – 60% to be determined within 13 weeks or an agreed Extension of Time
- Non-major applications – 70% to be determined within 8 weeks or an agreed Extension of Time

6.2 The Council's performance must be reported to Government on a quarterly basis.

6.3 For the quarter of October – December 2023, the Council’s performance in terms of speed was as follows:

- Major applications – 100% determined within 13 weeks or an agreed Extension of Time
- Non-major applications – 87.4% determined within 8 weeks or an agreed Extension of Time

6.4 The Council has therefore exceeded the statutory targets in this quarter.

6.5 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

**7.0 List of Appendices:**

7.1 None.

**8.0 Financial considerations:**

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

**9.0 Legal considerations:**

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

**10.0 Risk management considerations:**

10.1 Performance is influenced by staffing numbers, sickness and leave. Under-resourcing of the service could lead to inability to respond to peaks in workload

**11.0 Equalities considerations and the impact of this decision for our children and young people:**

11.1 None.

**12.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:**

12.1 None.

**13.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:**

13.1 Not applicable.

**14.0 Background Papers**

14.1 None.