

Response provided by the Functional Lead (Housing and Development) to Lewes District Council Scrutiny Committee re the Performance Indicators for Planning Performance

As you will appreciate the Planning Applications Service is in most part a reactive service and by that I mean that we have no control over the type of applications that are submitted nor the volume of cases received. Given this therefore, the planning performance is open to dynamic fluctuation and I would recommend that one should be looking at the longer term trends, rather than a single quarter in isolation.

Notwithstanding the above, Lewes District Council, along with all other Councils are assessed in terms of speed of processing of applications and these are set nationally. Those National Performance Indicators are:

- 60% of all Major Applications decided with 13 weeks (scheme more than 10 dwelling)
- 70% of all Minor applications decided within 8 weeks (scheme of less than 10 dwelling etc.)
- 70% of all Other applications decided with 8 weeks (change of use applications, domestic extensions, adverts etc.)

You will note that Lewes District Council has a modest stretch target 5% above these National Performance Indicators.

Acknowledging that we are not yet at the end of the current quarter, I have attached below the current performance for the minor and other type of applications. It is evident from this data that there has been a significant upturn in performance compared to the previous quarter.

I acknowledge that the previous quarter's performance was not where we would want it to be, however we have made some interventions and as is evident by the current quarter's performance these are having a marked impact on performance.

Month	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
January 2020	75.00%									+
December 2019	75.00%									+
November 2019	75.00%									+
October 2019	75.00%									+
September 2019	75.00%									+
August 2019	75.00%									+
July 2019	75.00%									+
June 2019	77.19%					44		57		+
May 2019	75.00%									+
April 2019	75.00%									+
March 2019	50.00%	75.00%				18		36	1	+
February 2019	45.45%	75.00%				10		22		+
January 2019	84.62%	75.00%				11		13	1	+
December 2018	77.78%	75.00%				7		9	1	+
November 2018	80.95%	75.00%				17		21	1	+
October 2018	66.67%	75.00%				12		18		+