

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE - 26 AUGUST 2003

STATISTICAL RETURNS TO THE ACCOUNTS COMMISSION

Report by Director of Development Services

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Committee of the statistical returns made to the Accounts Commission on some aspects of the performance of particular services within the department.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Local Government Act 1992 requires the Accounts Commission to issue an annual Direction to local authorities to "publish such information relating to their activities in any financial year as will facilitate the making of appropriate comparisons between different authorities and in different financial years".
- 2.2 The areas within Development Services covered by the Direction are:
- Development Promotion
 - Building Control
 - Roads and Lighting
- 2.3 The results of the indicators for 2002/03, including comparisons with the previous two years where appropriate, are contained in the annex to this report.

3. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There is no new policy implication arising from this report.

4 FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no financial or legal implications.

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 It is recommended that the Committee notes the contents of the report.

Stephen Chorley
Director of Development Services

SC/JF

11/8/03

BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Performance Information Return To The Accounts Commission

For further information on the contents of this report contact Jim Farrell. Tel 01563 576144.

Implementation Officer: Jim Farrell

Statutory Performance Indicators
3 Year Trends - 2000/01 to 2002/03

Planning

Indicator 1: the percentage of householder applications dealt with within the following times -

Time	2000/01 %	2001/02 %	2002/03 %	Variance 01/02 - 02/03 (+ / -)
a) Up to 1 month	30.3	35.8	19.7	- 16.1
b) 1-2 months	40.8	41.1	51.3	+ 10.2
c) 2-3 months	14.1	12.0	16.1	+ 4.1
d) > 3 months	14.8	11.0	12.9	+ 1.9

The key indicator is the proportion of applications determined within two months. The Scottish Executive sets a target of 90%. The Council is not currently meeting this target and its performance has declined. A key factor has been the proportion of applications requiring Committee determination under the current Scheme of Delegation. A separate report on this agenda recommends changes in the Scheme of Delegation

Staff shortages have also contributed to reduced performance levels and have been tackled through re-structuring of the Development Promotion section last year.

Indicator 2: the percentage of non-householder applications dealt with within the following times -

Time	2000/01 %	2001/02 %	2002/03 %	Variance 01/02 - 02/03 (+ / -)
a) Up to 2 months	49.4	50.4	43.3	- 7.1
b) 2-3 months	20.4	20.8	17.6	-3.2
c) > 3 months	30.2	28.8	39.1	+ 10.3

See comments above. The Scottish Executive target is 80% within two months

Indicator 3: Appeals -

Detail	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	Variance 01/02 - 02/03 (+ / -)
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a) Number of planning determinations	818	747	846	+ 99
b) No of planning decisions to appeal	10	14	13	- 1
Detail	2000/01 %	2001/02 %	2002/03 %	Variance 01/02 - 02/03 (+ / -)
c) (1) % of planning decisions to appeal	1.3	1.9	0.6	- 1.3
(2) % of decisions successful on appeal	30.0	35.7	38.5	+ 2.8

There are no significant changes in this indicator

Indicator 4: Development Plans -

Detail	2000/01 %	2001/02 %	2002/03 %	Variance 01/02 - 02/03 (+ / -)
% of population covered by a Local Plan adopted or finalised within the last 5 years	0	0	100	+ 100

As a result of the adoption of the East Ayrshire Local Plan there is now 100% coverage

Building Control

NB - This is a changed indicator, making impossible comparisons with previous years

Indicator 1: the percentage of building warrants dealt with within the following times -

Detail	2002/03 %
a) Percentage of building warrants responded to within 15 days	39.4
b) Percentage of building warrants issued within 6 days	91.8

Indicator 1 (cntd): the percentage of completion certificates dealt with within the following times -

Detail	2002/03 (days)
c) Average time taken to respond	3.1

to a completion certificate	
Detail	2002/03 %
d) Percentage of completion certificates issued within 3 days	77.8

No comments since there is no comparison basis

Roads & Lighting

Indicator 1: carriageway surface treatments -

Detail	2000/01 %	2001/02 %	2002/03 %	Variance 01/02 - 02/03 (+ / -)
a) Surfacing	1	1	1	0
b) Surface dressing	1	1	1	0

No change

Indicator 2: traffic light repairs -

Detail	2000/01 %	2001/02 %	2002/03 %	Variance 01/02 - 02/03 (+ / -)
Repairs complete within 48 hours	70.6	90	86	- 4

The change in this indicator is not significant. The major improvement historically between 00/01 and 01/02 resulted from new contractual arrangements

Indicator 3: street lights repairs -

Detail	2000/01 %	2001/02 %	2002/03 %	Variance 01/02 - 02/03 (+ / -)
Repairs completed within 7 days	97	94	98	+ 4

Performance on this indicator recovered from a relatively low point in 2001/02

Indicator 4: street lighting - gross costs and percentage replacement -

Detail	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	Variance 01/02 - 02/03 (+ / -)
a) Gross cost of streetlighting per lamp	£96.42	£99.32	£92.22	- £7.10

b) Lighting columns replaced as % of the total number of columns	2.95%	2.51%	2.90%	+ 0.39 %
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No significant issues arise from this indicator