



Report for:	Strategic Planning and Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting:	14 March 2016
PART:	1
If Part II, reason:	

Title of report:	Quarter 3 Performance Report – Planning, Development and Regeneration
Contact:	Cllr Graham Sutton, Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regeneration James Doe, Assistant Director – Planning, Development and Regeneration
Purpose of report:	To report on service performance for the third quarter of 2016/17, and to provide an update on the Operational Risk Register.
Recommendations	That the report be noted.
Corporate objectives:	The report focuses on the service plan for the area and key performance indicators. All corporate objectives are therefore relevant.
Implications:	<u>Financial</u> None arising directly from this report.
'Value For Money Implications'	<u>Value for Money</u> None arising directly from this report.
Risk Implications	Risk Assessment completed as part of the service plan.
Equalities Implications	None arising from this report.

Health And Safety Implications	None arising from this report.
Consultees:	<p>Cllr Graham Sutton, Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regeneration.</p> <p>Mark Gaynor, Corporate Director for Housing and Regeneration</p> <p>Sara Whelan, Group Manager for Development Management and Planning</p> <p>Chris Taylor, Group Manager for Strategic Planning and Regeneration</p>
Background papers:	Performance information held on the CorVu system.

Introduction

1. The report provides the performance report for the third quarter of the current business year. The detailed performance information is at Appendix 1.
2. Performance on service delivery continues to be strong, with all non-financial indicators at green except one at red (planning application validation).
3. The operational risk register is at Appendix 2 and has been updated since the last report to the Committee on 22 November 2016.

Performance Indicators

4. Building Control. Performance is again strong, with 100% of all applications determined within 2 months (BC01).
5. Development Management. This has been a strong quarter. Performance on all categories of applications is running at green. 100% of all major applications were determined on time (DMP04), 85% of the 'minor' category, and nearly 90% of the 'others' which comprise the bulk of the planning caseload (DMP05 and 06 respectively).
6. The number of planning applications that were received in quarter 3 (DMP02) was down on quarter 1 at 537 proposals compared to 606 in June-September.
7. Refusals of planning applications (DMP07) remains low at just under 5%.
8. The only process-based performance indicator at red this quarter is on the validation of planning applications within three working days (DMP08), which is at 48% compared to the 70% target where IT problems have persisted. Relatively slow validation of applications has not however affected performance in application processing overall, as can be seen above.
9. Planning Enforcement. The Council's approved Local Enforcement Plan sets out priorities for investigations into three categories. All Priority 1 cases were visited within 1 working day (PE01). Priority 2 cases (PE02) were under target

at 59% for the target visiting time of 10 working days. For priority 3 cases (PE03) to be visited within 15 working days, the outcome was 80.9%. There was some slippage from quarter 2, with a vacancy in the team being filled. The enforcement team is now back up to full strength.

10. Land Charges. This is a competitive service and workload and business remains very high, though the number of property searches received (LC01) held steady at 481 searches compared to 483 in quarter 2 and 589 in quarter 1. Performance (LC02) is good at an average processing time of 5.81 days against the target of ten.
11. Strategic Planning and Regeneration. The house building market was active during Q3 with 156 new homes built, up from 111 in quarter 2 (SPR05). This brings the total to date this business year to 431 units, at this stage already meeting the annual Core Strategy target of 430 units.
12. Finance. The main issue continues to be under-recovery of planning fees against budgeted target income (FIN16). This is due to a fall off in the number of major applications being submitted across the year, but activity has picked up again. Fees received amounted to nearly £520,000 against the expected trajectory of £610,000, but the gap between receipts and trajectory has narrowed from quarter 2. The income issue remains a risk, but will be monitored closely.
13. Land Charges income (FIN17) is slightly under target by around £7,000.
14. For building control fees, the income situation has improved with almost £413,000 received against the anticipated target at this stage of the year of £406,000.

Operational Risk Register

15. The quarter 3 report is at Appendix 2. The residual risk rating has been raised in two areas.
16. The first, reference PDRF03 relates to income streams failing to meet budgeted targets. This reflects what has taken place this year, as referred to in this report.
17. The second, reference PDRR01 relates to the Local Plan (formerly the Local Development Framework) not meeting key milestones. The risk rating has been raised slightly to reflect that the Council is commencing a full Local Plan Review this year and issues such as new legislation and timescales set by the Planning Inspectorate as part of the process can lead to delays. Progress on the Local Plan is being managed as a corporate project of the Council.