

PLANNING COMMITTEE

10 JANUARY 2012

REPORT OF THE TEMPORARY HEAD OF PLANNING

A.2 PLANNING APPEALS QUARTERLY REPORT

This report has been compiled to inform the Committee of appeals performance from 1st April 2011 to 22nd December 2011. The performance in the last almost 9 months is compared to the performance in the last 2 years.

All appeals	1.4.09 to 31.3.10	1.4.10 to 31.3.11	1.4.11 to 22.12.11
Allowed	19 31.67%	22 34.38%	12 35.29%
Dismissed	41 68.33%	39 60.94%	22 64.71%
Split Decisions	0	3 4.68%	0
Committee Decisions			
Allowed	7 50%	7 58.33%	0
Dismissed	7 50%	5 41.67%	1 100%

The Council's target on appeal performance is for allowed appeals not to exceed 35%. In past years this has been achieved. In the April to December 2011 period it is almost exactly met, but just marginally exceeded.

To put these statistics in context the Government used to have a best value indicator for appeal performance. The indicator was that allowed appeals should not exceed 40%. As the statistics show the Council's overall appeal performance is better than that national indicator.

Of particular note is the substantial reduction in appeals from decisions made by this Committee.

Officers do detect that Inspectors seem more likely to allow appeals and the emerging National Planning Policy Framework is likely to increase this trend. As a consequence under delegated powers your officers are now moving to approval of some applications that would have been refused in the past. It will take some time for this change in approach to be reflected in appeal decisions.

Background Papers

None, other than published works