

## ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

### Development Control performance 6<sup>th</sup> April 2009 – 5<sup>th</sup> April 2010

Total number of applications decided	% decisions within 8 weeks	% decisions within 13 weeks	Target 8 weeks (%)	Target 13 weeks (%)
1,696	49	81	60	70

#### Notes:-

The figures above relate only to planning applications made under the Land Planning and Development (Guernsey) Law, 2005 ('The 2005 Law'). Applications made under the former Island Development (Guernsey) Laws, 1966-1990 ('The 1966 Law') were being processed throughout this period but are not included in these statistics.

Speed of decision is measured in terms of the period between receipt of the valid application and the actual issue (i.e. posting out) of the formal decision notice (not the time between receipt of the application and making of the decision which is shorter).

During 2009 there were significant fluctuations in workload due to the quantity of applications received immediately prior to building control and planning application fees being introduced in June and October respectively. The figures were also distorted by the clearance of remaining 1966 Law applications. The 3 week advertisement period associated with site notices has a general impact on the figures.

Around 16% of applications more than 8 weeks old have been deferred for negotiation of improvements or for submission of further information as an alternative to potential refusal of planning consent. Feedback from planning agents indicates strong support for this approach. It helps maintain a relatively low refusal rate (at around 10%), and consequently also results in fewer appeals. This approach however impacts primarily on the 8 week statistic, as it often takes longer than 8 weeks for an application to be considered, deferred, and for revised plans or further information to come back to the Department from the applicant.

Given the above considerations, the Department is satisfied that the year-end outcome of 49% in the 8 week category (i.e. 11% below target) and 81% in the 13 week category (i.e. 11% above target) represents an acceptable first year performance.

The Department's targets for the current year 2010/2011 are to issue 70% of decisions within 8 weeks and 80% within 13 weeks.

Performance statistics for the first quarter of 2010 will be available in July 2010.