

# ***Report to the Council***

**Committee:** Cabinet **Date:** 1 November 2011  
**Subject:** Planning and Technology Portfolio  
**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor John Philip

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## **Recommending:**

**That the supplementary report of the Planning and Technology Portfolio Holder be noted.**

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Fee income on planning applications is still up on expectation at month 6 by £40,475. This is in the main due to a few major applications for development on horticultural nurseries in the western part of the District. It is clear that we will not have the ability to set our fees this year which had been budgeted to make a significant contribution to the income this year. We will continue to track this proactively.

Development Control key performance indicators at month 6 are as follows (target in brackets):

KPI 51 – Major applications within 13 weeks – 86.96% (81%)

KPI 52 – Minor applications within 8 weeks – 77.26% (81%)

KPI 53 – Other applications within 8 weeks – 92.77% (93%)

KPI 54 – Appeals Allowed: Officer recommendations/decisions – 22.22% (20%)

KPI 55 – Appeals Allowed: Members Reversals – 46.15% (50%)

In summary, we are therefore currently achieving targets for KPI 51 and KPI 55, but just outside KPI 53 and KPI 54.

As reported at the last Council meeting, following the meeting with Bob Neil, the Leader, and I with relevant officers met with Steve Quartermain, the Chief Planner at Department of Communities and Local Government, on 19 October. The meeting covered points made by EFDC in response to the consultation on the National Planning Policy Framework (EFDC being one of some 13,600 responders); Gypsy, Roma, Traveller issues; and Government proposals in relation to Local Plans.

A key point was what savings/transition arrangements for Local Plans would exist, and to minimise risks to EFDC, what steps could be taken to speed up delivery of a new plan. I shall report further once we have examined the options available.