Report to the Council

Committee: Cabinet Date: 24th July 2007

Subject: Planning and Economic Development Portfolio

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Mrs A Grigg Item: 6(i)

Recommending:

That the report of the Planning and Economic Development Portfolio Holder be noted.

Development Control Performance - April to June 2007

Major Applications

Performance during this period saw 87.5% of major applications determined in the 13 week period and exceed the Top Quartile Target and Government Target.

Major Top Quartile Target Government Target

87.5% 74.5% 60%

Minor Applications

Performance during this period saw 77.89% of minor applications determined in the 8 week period. This unfortunately did not meet the Top Quartile Target but did exceed the Government Target.

Minor Top Quartile Target Government Target

77.89% 80.39% 65%

Other Applications

Performance during this period saw 86.62% of other applications determined in the 8 week timeframe. This did not meet the Top Quartile Target but did exceed the Government Target.

Other Top Quartile Target Government Target

86.62% 91.61% 80%

Loughton Town Centre Enhancement Scheme

The issue with the trees continues with difficulties in respect of land ownership and the technicalities of the planting itself. A report is being prepared and will be presented to Cabinet as early as possible. Officers have opened discussions with Essex County Council on the basis that the unregistered land was clearly in use as public highway before the TCE works and therefore could be considered to be highway land.

The Broadway Enhancement Scheme

There has still been no response or even acknowledgement from Transco to the Council's letter. Drop testing is due to be undertaken over the weekend period 22nd/23rd July to establish whether and how extensively the grouting system can be used to support the existing road infrastructure. There will be a meeting with Essex County Council in mid-August to discuss the outcomes of the drop testing and the ensuing technical issues.

Burton Road Car Park - The TRO objection period ended on the 15th July 2007. The Portfolio Holder for Civil Engineering and Maintenance will consider any objections and make the decision.

Mast - Waltham Abbey

A meeting will shortly be held between Legal Services, Head of Planning and Economic Development and Counsel to discuss this matter. The outcome of this meeting will be reported as soon as possible.