

Development Control Statistics for 2009

(1st January 2009 – 31st December 2009)

Applications Received

Period	Government Returns	Total*
1 st Jan – 31 st Mar	309	402
1 st Apr – 30 th Jun	335	436
1 st Jul – 30 th Sep	370	449
1 st Oct – 31 st Dec	293	392

Decisions

Applications Decided

Period	Major Apps Govt Target 60% decided within 13 weeks			Minor Apps Govt Target 65% decided within 8 weeks			Other Apps Govt Target 80% decided within 8 weeks		
	%	Total	In Time	%	Total	In Time	%	Total	In Time
Jan – Mar	77.78	9	7	65.45	55	36	79.25	158	125
Apr – Jun	50	8	4	57.53	73	42	80.5	200	161
Jul – Sep	33.33	3	1	64.71	68	43	81.63	245	201
Oct – Dec	71.43	7	5	52.7	74	39	70.1	203	142
Total	62.96	27	17	59.25	270	160	78.03	806	629

The results for Minor and Other applications are particularly disappointing. There are two main reasons for these figures. At the start of the year the Department introduced new procedures and IT systems designed to improve performance. However, to do this, some staff were diverted to working on implementing these new procedures and systems and this reduced the number of staff hours available for dealing with applications. At the end of the year the department focussed on clearing the backlog that had built up earlier and, as a result, a higher proportion of older applications were decided. It is expected that the full benefits of the changes made in Development Control will be seen in the figure for 2010.

Decisions Made by

Period	Committee	Panel	Delegated	
			Govt Returns	Total*
1 st Jan – 31 st Mar	14	13	143	259
1 st Apr – 30 th Jun	26	19	173	211
1 st Jul – 30 th Sep	26	15	297	348
1 st Oct – 31 st Dec	35	19	258	315

*The figures included in the Government returns does not include a number of types of applications, including Telecommunications Notifications, Agricultural Notifications and applications to discharge conditions attached to planning permissions. To give an accurate picture of the workload dealt with over the year, the Total figures include all the applications submitted to the Development Control Section including those not taken into account by the Government statistics. Although it is possible for an application (most notably telecommunication notifications) not included in the Government returns to be decided at either a Development Control Committee or a Panel, none were during 2009.

In addition 95 applications were Withdrawn by the applicant or were treated as 'Not Proceeded With' (because the applicants did not respond to requests for further information or amendments) during the year.

The number of delegated decisions is 75.2% based on the Government return figures. The comparable National average is 91% (Govt statistic)

Note: The total number of applications in the Applications Decided Table and the total number of applications in the Decisions Made by Table do not tally. This is because the first table deals with Decisions Issued within the year and the second table deals with the Decisions Made during the year. There will have been decisions made during the year but usually because of the need to complete Section 106 agreements etc the decision is not issued for several weeks or months taking them into the following year.

Appeals (Planning Applications)

Period	Committee				Delegated	
	With Rec		Against Rec			
	Allow	Dismiss	Allow	Dismiss	Allow	Dismiss
1 st Jan – 31 st Mar	2	0	3	1	3	3
1 st Apr – 30 th Jun	0	0	1	1	1	1
1 st Jul – 30 th Sep	0	1	3	0	2	2
1 st Oct – 31 st Dec	0	0	0	0	0	1
Success rate/Number of appeals	33% from 3 appeals		23% from 9 appeals		54% from 13 appeals	
Total number of Appeals dealt with during the year is 32 (7 appeals received during the year remain undecided by the Planning Inspectorate).						

Note: If an Appeal is Allowed it means that the Council lost the argument. If an Appeal is Dismissed, the Planning Inspector agreed with the Council.

This gives us a current (until we have decisions on the in progress Appeals), overall, success rate of 40% for the year compared with a national average of 66% based on Planning Inspectorate figures for April 2008 – March 2009 (most recent figures available).

Types of Appeal
(Appeals started 01.01.09 – 31.12.09)

No. of Appeals dealt with by Written Representations	No. of Appeals dealt with by Informal Hearing	No. of Appeals dealt with by Public Inquiry
23	3	6

Appeals (comparison stats)

The figures below are taken from the Planning Inspectorates statistics for **01.04.08 – 31.03.09** (the most recent figures available). The authorities shown have been chosen because they are in our area or they are similar to us in terms of the issues they face.

Local Authority	% Appeals Won	Total No. of Appeals
Milton Keynes	40%	50
Ashford Borough*	69%	74
Aylesbury Vale	71%	113
Bedford Borough#	62%	71
Mid Beds#	62%	68
Northampton Borough	62%	42
South Northants	57%	61
Stevanage^	75%	8
Telford & Wrekin^	70%	40

* Like Milton Keynes, Ashford is, along with Milton Keynes, an identified growth area.

Prior to becoming Unitary Authorities

^ New Towns of a similar age as Milton Keynes

Consultation Statistics

(Statutory and non statutory consultees not including Parish/Town Councils)

Consultee	No. of times consulted	No. of responses received within set period*	No. of responses received beyond set period
Highways Development Control (MKC)	623	216	78
Conservation and Archaeology	396	134	89
Landscape Design (MKC)	95	45	6
Landscape – Trees (MKC)	203	20	45
Landscape –Protected Species (MKC)	49	8	9
Environmental Health (MKC)	132	84	30
Urban Design (MKC)	23	6	5
Housing (MKC)	23	9	5
Crime Prevention Advisor	59	25	7
Highways Agency	9	3	2
Drainage#	66	17	37
Environment Agency	69	28	33
English Heritage	31	20	7
British Waterways Board	7	0	2
Others (internal & external)	245	39	36

* This is normally 21 days after the consultation is sent out, but for a few consultees the period is longer.

This includes Anglian Water & both local internal drainage boards.

Please note that the Consultee Statistics have been produced following the introduction of new procedures and computer systems. During the period of transition to these new procedures and systems, the date on which consultation responses were received has had to be entered manually into the systems. There is, therefore, a possibility that the date of receipt of some consultation responses were not recorded during this transition period.

Section 106 Statistics

These are the Section 106 contributions agreed for planning permissions issued 01.01.09 – 31.12.09. In some cases developments have not yet commenced and it is not possible (for example carbon off-set contributions) to work out the precise value of the contribution. In these cases the value column contains the best information available.

Type of Contribution	Value
To Carbon off-set fund	7 developments providing £200 per tonne of carbon produced
Social Infrastructure	£692,294.64
Community Facilities	Provision of a Community Hall and living archive facility
Education	£78,785
Public Transport	£305,500 plus works in kind
Highways	£73,000 plus works in kind
Public Open Space	£148,189.92
Public Art	£74,400
Total	£1,372,169.56 plus works in kind and contributions to Carbon Neutrality fund

Enforcement Statistics

Total Enforcement action requests/enquiries received by issue	Adverts	28
	Compliance (built) checks	73
	Compliance (conditions) checks	22
	High hedges	2
	Listed Buildings	12
	HiMO	81
	Protected Trees	17
	Unauthorised works	155
	Unauthorised Use	153
	Untidy land	24
	Total	567
Total number acted upon		567
Outcome of enforcement investigation	Number of unfounded allegations	283
	Planning applications resulting from enforcement enquiries	70
	Enforcement Notice	15
	Temporary Stop Notice	2
	Planning Contravention Notice	25
	Breach of Condition Notice	1
	S215 (Untidy Land) Notice	2
	Listed Building Enforcement Notice	1
	Remedial High Hedge Notice	1
	Injunctions	0
Enforcement Appeals	Appeals Allowed	0
	Appeals Dismissed	1
	Appeals Withdrawn	1