



*Proposed Planning Best Value  
Performance Standards for  
2007/8 Consultation*

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A consultation paper



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Performance Standards for  
2007/8 Consultation*

On 5th May 2006 the responsibilities of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) transferred to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG)

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# Introduction

The Government proposes to set further planning Best Value performance standards in 2007/08 under section 4 of the Local Government Act 1999. They will apply to poorly performing local planning authorities subject to the Government's development control targets. The assessment period for 2007/08 is the year ending June 2006.

This consultation sets out the proposed new Performance Standards and the authorities to which they will apply. The 31 March 2007 is the deadline for all local planning authorities in England to achieve the national performance targets for processing planning applications of at least:

60% of major applications within 13 weeks  
65% of minor planning applications in 8 weeks and;  
80% of other planning applications in 8 weeks.

We intend to consider any authority whose performance is five percentage points below the target threshold levels in the year to June 2006 for designation as a planning standards authority in 2007-08. If an authority's BV109 performance is within five percentage points of any of the published trigger thresholds at 30 June 2006 then they have not been included in this consultation as a proposed planning standards authority for 2007/08.

The consultation exercise concentrates solely on these proposals.

Following the end of the consultation period the Government will consider all of the responses received before laying an Order before Parliament to have effect in 2007/08. **The Government will also take into account improvements in performance in the year to September 2006 (data published in December) before making the final decision.**

## Major applications (*decisions on major planning applications*)

We propose to apply a performance standard to those authorities that determined less than 55% of major planning applications in thirteen weeks in the year ending June 2006. As only 3% of applications fall into this class nationally, we have discounted those authorities determining less than 10 applications. The standard that these authorities would be expected to reach is to **determine 60% of major planning applications within thirteen weeks in 2007/08.**

### The 61 authorities are:

Aylesbury Vale District Council	Harborough District Council	South Staffordshire District Council
Barnsley MBC	Harlow District Council	Stafford Borough Council
Basildon District Council	Harrow, London Borough	Surrey Heath Borough Council
Berwick-upon-Tweed BC	Hertsmere Borough Council	Tamworth Borough Council
Blackpool UA	Huntingdonshire DC	Thanet District Council
Blyth Valley Borough Council	Lambeth, London Borough	Three Rivers District Council
Braintree District Council	Lancaster Council	Torridge District Council
Brentwood Borough Council	Leeds Council	Tower Hamlets, London Borough
Bromsgrove District Council	Leicester UA	Tynedale District Council
Broxbourne Borough Council	Lewisham, London Borough	Wellingborough Borough Council
Calderdale MBC	Mid Bedfordshire DC	West Somerset District Council
Caradon District Council	Mid Suffolk District Council	West Wiltshire District Council
Castle Point District Council	Milton Keynes UA	Weymouth and Portland BC
Cherwell District Council	Newcastle-under-Lyme BC	Winchester Council
Copeland District Council	North East Lincolnshire UA	Wyre Borough Council
Craven District Council	Norwich Council	
Daventry District Council	Peak NP	
Dudley MBC	Plymouth UA	
Easington District Council	Rochford District Council	
East Hampshire District Council	Rutland UA	
Forest of Dean District Council	South Gloucestershire UA	
Fylde Borough Council	South Lakeland District Council	
Guildford Borough Council	South Somerset District Council	

## **Minor applications (*decisions on minor planning applications*)**

We propose that a standard should apply to those authorities who in the year ending June 2006 determined less than 60% of minor planning applications in eight weeks. As 27% of applications fall into this class nationally, there is no cut-off based on number of applications determined. The standard proposed for this class of application is to **determine 65% of minor applications within eight weeks in 2007/08.**

### **The 23 authorities are:**

Bath & North East Somerset UA  
Berwick-upon-Tweed Borough Council  
Blyth Valley Borough Council  
Brentwood Borough Council  
Broads Authority NP  
Bromsgrove District Council  
Calderdale MBC  
Caradon District Council  
Copeland District Council  
Craven District Council  
Fylde Borough Council  
Hambleton District Council  
Kingston upon Hull UA  
Mid Suffolk District Council  
Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council  
New Forest outside New Forest NP  
North East Lincolnshire UA  
Northumberland NP  
Penwith District Council  
South Somerset District Council  
Surrey Heath Borough Council  
Torridge District Council  
Waveney District Council

## **Other applications (*decisions on other planning applications*)**

We propose that a further standard apply to those authorities who in the year ending June 2006 determined less than 75% of other applications in eight weeks. As 70% of applications fall in this class nationally, there is no cut-off based on the number of applications determined. A standard to **determine 80% of other applications in eight weeks for 2007/08 is proposed.**

### **The 21 authorities are:**

Bath & North East Somerset UA

Berwick-upon-Tweed Borough Council

Blyth Valley Borough Council

Bromsgrove District Council

Caradon District Council

Craven District Council

Easington District Council

Fylde Borough Council

Islington, London Borough

Kingston upon Hull UA

Mid Suffolk District Council

North East Lincolnshire UA

Northumberland NP

Peak NP

Penwith District Council

Scarborough Borough Council

South Somerset District Council

Southwark, London Borough

Surrey Heath Borough Council

Torridge District Council

Yorkshire Dales NP

### **The definitions of major, minor and other applications can be found in the PS2 return forms as follows:**

- Major applications rows 1 to 5
- Minor applications rows 6 to 10
- Other applications rows 11 to 18