



Development Management Statistics Northern Ireland

**2008/09 Fourth Quarterly Statistical Bulletin
(January to March 2009)**

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The Planning Service is the only official source for planning statistics in Northern Ireland

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Section 1 – Applications received and decided

Incomplete applications

Planning Service continues to receive a large number of incomplete applications. In the fourth quarter of 2008/09 the Agency received 1,741 applications that were deemed to be incomplete for a variety of reasons, including errors on the application form, lack of documentation or incorrect application fees.

Applications received

Planning Service received 4,774 applications in the fourth quarter of 2008/09 (**Table 1**); a decrease of 24% on the corresponding quarter in 2007/08. All Local Government Districts experienced a fall in applications received when compared with the same quarter a year earlier. The areas with the greatest reduction in applications received were Belfast LGD and Fermanagh LGD, which reduced by 299 (41%) and 116 (31%) applications respectively, from the corresponding quarter in the previous year (**Table 2**).

Applications withdrawn

In the fourth quarter of 2008/09, 131 applications were withdrawn by applicants or planning agents prior to a decision being issued. Applications can be withdrawn at any stage prior to a decision being made and relate to valid applications received in the quarter and in earlier financial years.

Applications decided

Planning Service issued decisions on 5,374 applications in the fourth quarter of 2008/09, representing just under a 10% decrease compared with the same period last year.

- The number of decisions issued for outline planning applications fell by 78 when compared with the corresponding quarter in 2007/08, representing a 19% decrease. (**Table 1**).
- The number of decisions issued for reserved matters applications fell by 386 (35%) when compared with the corresponding quarter in 2007/08 (**Table 1**).
- The number of decisions issued for full planning applications also decreased compared with last year with 144 fewer decisions issued representing a reduction of 3.5% (**Table 1**).

Geographically the largest increase in the number of applications decided was in the Strabane LGD, with an additional 74 (75.5%) applications decided when compared with the same period in 2007/08. In contrast the greatest reduction in the number of applications decided was in the Armagh LGD which saw 169 fewer decisions issued, a reduction of 45% on the same quarter in 2007/08 (**Table 2**).

Applications approved

Overall 93.6% of all applications decided in the fourth quarter of 2008/09 were approved representing a decrease of 0.5 percentage points when compared with the same period in 2007/08 (**Table 1**). Approval rates varied across local government districts ranging from 84.1% in Derry to 98.5% in Armagh (**Table 2**).

Applications received, decided and approved by Assembly Constituency Area, is shown in table 3.

Section 2 – Applications for Residential Development

Applications received and decided

Of the 4,774 applications received in the fourth quarter of 2008/09, 74% (3,553) were applications for residential development. This figure represents a decrease of 1,282 applications on the number received in quarter 4 of 2007/08, corresponding to a 26.5% decrease in residential applications (**Table 4**)

Of the 5,374 decisions issued in the fourth quarter of 2008/09; 76% (4,086) decisions related specifically to residential development applications. This figure represents a reduction of 635 decisions issued in the quarter when compared to 2007/08, representing a 13.5% decrease. (**Table 4**)

Applications for Residential Development in urban and rural areas

In the fourth quarter of 2008/09, Planning Service received less than half (56%, 105) the applications for outline planning permission in urban areas when compared with the corresponding period in 2007/08. The number of applications for outline permission in rural areas rose by almost 200% (296) when compared to the same period in 2007/08 (**Table 5**).

There was a decrease of 38% (826) in the number of applications for full planning permission in urban areas when compared with the corresponding period in 2007/08 (**Table 5**) and the number of applications for full planning permission in rural areas also fell by a little over 6% in the quarter (6.5%, 78). The number of reserved matters applications received for rural areas fell by over a half (56%, 476) when compared to the same period last year (**Table 5**)

The number of decisions issued for residential development in urban areas decreased by 8% (171) when compared with 2007/08 (**Table 5**). The number of decisions issued for planning permission for residential development in rural areas also reduced between the two time periods, with 19% (464) fewer decisions issued in 2008/09; 33% (659) of which were decisions issued for the approval of reserved matters (**Table 5**).

The approval rate for applications for residential development in rural areas increased by 1.2 percentage points between corresponding quarters in 2007/08 and 2008/09; resulting in an overall approval rate for all residential applications of 94.2% in quarter 4 of 2008/09 (**Table 5**).

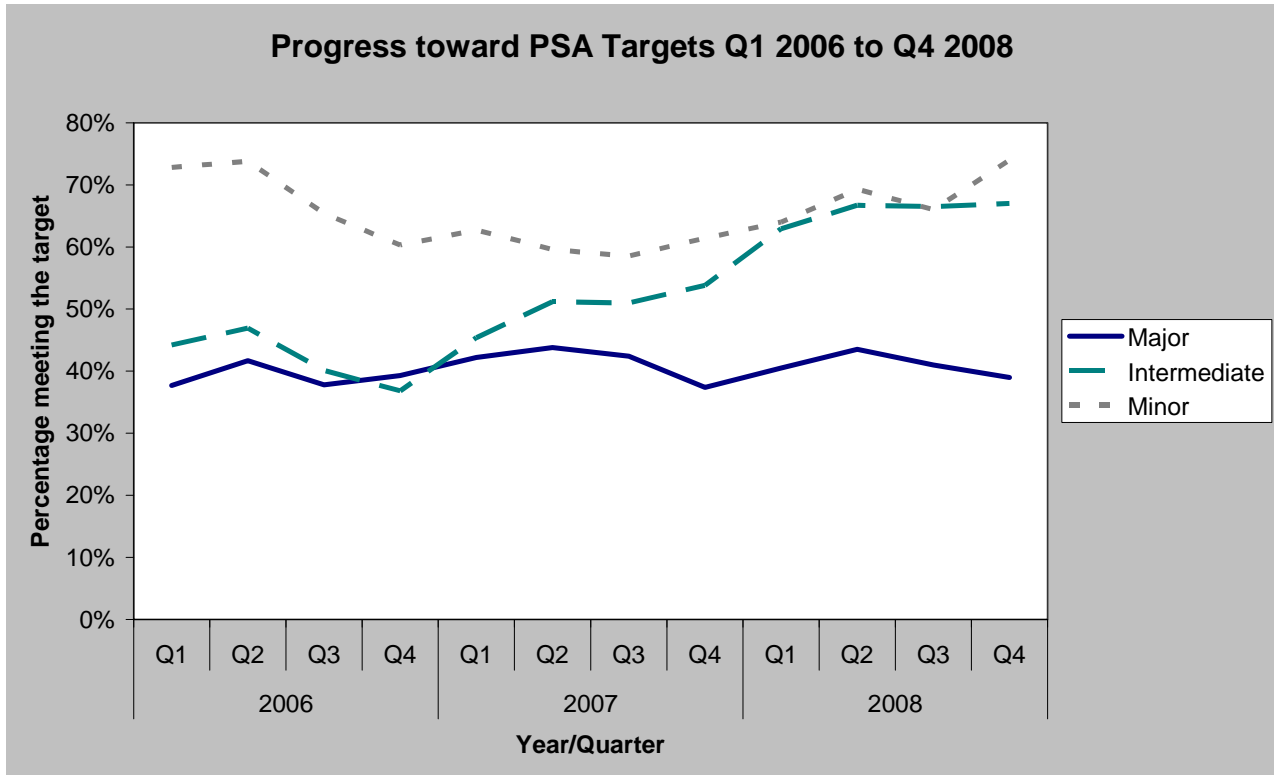
Applications for single dwellings

The number of applications received for new single dwellings in rural areas reduced by 8% (79) when compared with the number received in quarter 4, a year ago (**Table 6**). A quarter fewer (25%, 361) applications were received for urban domestic extensions and alterations than the same period in 2007/08. The number of applications received for housing developments was over 60% fewer (62%, 517) than the number received in quarter 4 2007/08 (**Table 6**).

The number of applications decided for new single dwellings in rural areas fell by 38% (473) between the two time periods (**Table 6**). This includes applications for full planning permission, outline planning permission and approval of reserved matters (following granting of outline planning permission). As such it is not equivalent to the same number of new dwellings which may be constructed in rural areas.

Section 3 – Performance on processing planning applications

Progress made towards achieving Public Service Agreement (PSA) targets



Major applications

Target: to process 60% of major applications to decision or withdrawal in 23 weeks

Actual Performance: 39% of major planning applications were decided or withdrawn within the target period in quarter 4 of 2008/09 compared with 37% in the same quarter in 2007/08. 60% of Major planning applications were decided in 41 (39) weeks

Intermediate applications

Target: to process 70% of intermediate applications to decision or withdrawal in 31 weeks

Actual Performance: 67% of intermediate planning applications were decided or withdrawn within the target period in 2008/09 compared with

54% in the previous year, showing an 13 percentage point increase in progress toward the target. 70% of Intermediate planning applications were decided in 33 (43) weeks

Minor applications

Target:	to process 80% of minor applications to decision or withdrawal in 18 weeks
Actual Performance	74% of minor planning applications were decided or withdrawn within the target period in 2008/09 compared with 61% in the previous year, showing an 13 percentage point progress toward the target. 80% of Minor planning applications were decided in 22 (25) weeks.

For information on 2010/11 PSA targets please refer to the appendix 3 at the end of the report. (*Figures in brackets refer to the same period in 2007/08*)

Progress made towards achieving Agency Business Plan targets

During quarter 4 of 2008/09, the Agency is on target to achieving its 2008/09 Business Plan Targets

Validation (*Figures in brackets refer to the same period in 2007/08*)

Target	to validate 75% of all applications within 6 days;
Actual Performance	97% (65%) of all applications were validated within 6 days.
Target	to validate 95% of all applications within 10 days;
Actual Performance	99% (83%) of all applications were validated within 10 days.

Issuing Decisions (*Figures in brackets refer to the same period in 2007/08*)

Target	to issue 75% of decisions within 2 weeks of last Council consultation;
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Actual Performance	92% (74%) of decisions were issued within 2 weeks of last Council consultation
Target	to issue 95% of decisions within 4 weeks of last Council consultation;
Actual Performance	98% (88%) of decisions were issued within 4 weeks of last Council consultation

Average processing times by Planning Division

Due to the small number of applications decided when spread across divisions this measure will produce noticeable fluctuations in the trend and is more suited to analysis in the annual publication, published in October each year.

Section 4 – Statistical Tables

Table 1 All applications received and decided by type of application ^P
Northern Ireland, January to March 2009, (January to March 2008 in brackets)

Type of Application	Applications Received ¹		Applications Decided ²		Applications Approved ³		Applications Withdrawn			
					Number	Percentage				
Outline Planning Permission	544	(365)	330	(408)	263	(306)	79.7	(75.0)	35	(34)
Full Planning Permission	3442	(4512)	3924	(4068)	3692	(3867)	94.1	(95.1)	88	(81)
Approval of Reserved Matters	409	(906)	716	(1102)	714	(1100)	99.7	(99.8)	2	(3)
Consent to Display	148	(166)	158	(136)	133	(113)	84.2	(83.1)	2	(2)
Certificates of Lawful Use or Development for a Proposed Use	107	(148)	86	(118)	81	(110)	94.2	(93.2)	0	(5)
Certificates of Lawful Use or Development for an Existing Use	32	(32)	38	(28)	31	(23)	-	-	0	1
Listed Building Consent	68	(90)	93	(60)	88	(54)	-	-	3	(4)
Other Types of Consent ⁴	24	(49)	29	(26)	26	(20)	-	-	1	(5)
All Applications	4774	(6268)	5374	(5946)	5028	(5593)	93.6	(94.1)	131	(135)

¹ All applications received in the year may not have had a decision issued within the same time period and applications decided in the year may not have been received in the same time period. Therefore direct comparisons between the figures can not be made. Applications received also include withdrawn applications.

² Applications decided do not include withdrawn applications

³ The number and per cent of applications approved is based on the number of decisions issued in the same year.

⁴ Other types of consent include Hazard Substance Consent and Conservation Area Consent

- numbers are too small to calculate meaningful percentages

^P provisional

Table 2 All applications received and decided by Local Government District^P
Northern Ireland, January to March 2009, (January to March 2008 in brackets)

Local Government District	Applications Received ¹		Applications Decided ²		Applications Approved ³			
					Number		Percentage	
Antrim	164	(201)	169	(177)	164	(167)	97.0	(94.4)
Ards	185	(269)	207	(219)	197	(210)	95.2	(95.9)
Armagh	161	(232)	206	(375)	203	(355)	98.5	(94.7)
Ballymena	196	(236)	169	(236)	165	(217)	97.6	(91.9)
Ballymoney	90	(152)	109	(151)	106	(147)	97.2	(97.4)
Banbridge	148	(188)	175	(304)	167	(294)	95.4	(96.7)
Belfast	434	(733)	590	(597)	543	(530)	92.0	(88.8)
Carrickfergus	61	(95)	58	(71)	55	(63)	-	-
Castlereagh	110	(154)	99	(119)	96	(109)	-	(91.6)
Coleraine	167	(237)	240	(226)	228	(215)	95.0	(95.1)
Cookstown	172	(216)	172	(126)	160	(115)	93.0	(91.3)
Craigavon	152	(240)	217	(237)	207	(230)	95.4	(97.0)
Derry	220	(230)	207	(339)	174	(321)	84.1	(94.7)
Down	239	(258)	227	(242)	211	(228)	93.0	(94.2)
Dungannon & South Tyrone	248	(324)	277	(263)	268	(253)	96.8	(96.2)
Fermanagh	260	(376)	282	(333)	245	(321)	86.9	(96.4)
Larne	85	(102)	77	(79)	74	(76)	-	-
Limavady	116	(135)	99	(164)	94	(157)	-	(95.7)
Lisburn	275	(284)	341	(295)	318	(279)	93.3	(94.6)
Magherafelt	175	(200)	203	(190)	188	(168)	92.6	(88.4)
Moyle	86	(103)	104	(64)	101	(59)	97.1	-
Newry and Mourne	355	(418)	414	(522)	381	(496)	92.0	(95.0)
Newtownabbey	136	(195)	130	(123)	120	(114)	92.3	(92.7)
North Down	160	(217)	199	(199)	191	(189)	96.0	(95.0)
Omagh	230	(316)	231	(197)	205	(190)	88.7	(96.4)
Strabane	149	(157)	172	(98)	167	(90)	97.1	(91.8)
All Areas	4774	(6268)	5374	(5946)	5028	(5593)	93.6	(94.1)

¹ All applications received in the year may not have had a decision issued within the same time period and applications decided in the year may not have been received in the same time period. Therefore direct comparisons between the figures can not be made. Applications received also include withdrawn applications.

² Applications decided do not include withdrawn applications

³ The number and per cent of applications approved is based on the number of decisions issued in the same year.

- numbers are too small to calculate meaningful percentages

^P provisional

Table 3 All applications received and decided by Assembly Constituency Area ^P
Northern Ireland, January to March 2009, (January to March 2008 in brackets)

Northern Ireland Assembly Constituency Area	Applications Received ¹		Applications Decided ²		Applications Approved ³			
					Number	Percentage		
Belfast East	126	(206)	138	(182)	127	(158)	92.0	(86.8)
Belfast North	120	(180)	154	(135)	135	(118)	87.7	(87.4)
Belfast South	196	(352)	288	(279)	271	(250)	94.1	(89.6)
Belfast West	87	(108)	103	(89)	95	(81)	92.2	(91.0)
East Antrim	174	(238)	166	(176)	157	(162)	94.6	(92.0)
East Londonderry	283	(372)	334	(390)	317	(372)	94.9	(95.4)
Fermanagh and South Tyrone	429	(626)	512	(535)	467	(515)	91.2	(96.3)
Foyle	220	(230)	206	(339)	173	(321)	84.0	(94.7)
Lagan Valley	302	(316)	368	(380)	344	(363)	93.5	(95.5)
Mid Ulster	426	(490)	420	(378)	393	(343)	93.6	(90.7)
Newry and Armagh	336	(449)	399	(635)	379	(596)	95.0	(93.9)
North Antrim	372	(489)	377	(451)	368	(423)	97.6	(93.8)
North Down	191	(260)	234	(235)	223	(220)	95.3	(93.6)
South Antrim	250	(339)	254	(261)	244	(247)	96.1	(94.6)
South Down	446	(500)	496	(597)	461	(574)	92.9	(96.1)
Strangford	232	(324)	242	(258)	234	(253)	96.7	(98.1)
Upper Bann	205	(316)	287	(332)	272	(318)	94.8	(95.8)
West Tyrone	379	(473)	396	(294)	368	(279)	92.9	(94.9)
All Areas	4774	(6268)	5374	(5946)	5028	(5593)	93.6	(94.7)

¹ All applications received in the year may not have had a decision issued within the same time period and applications decided in the year may not have been received in the same time period. Therefore direct comparisons between the figures can not be made. Applications received also include withdrawn applications.

² Applications decided do not include withdrawn applications

³ The number and per cent of applications approved is based on the number of decisions issued in the same year.

- numbers are too small to calculate meaningful percentages

^P provisional

Table 4 All applications received and decided by type of development ^P
Northern Ireland, January to March 2009, (January to March 2008 in brackets)

Type of Development ⁵	Applications Received ¹		Applications Decided ²		Applications Approved ³			
					Number		Percentage	
Agricultural	52	(127)	54	(56)	45	(54)	-	-
Commercial	355	(355)	308	(308)	273	(280)	88.6	(90.9)
Government and Civic	423	(439)	409	(385)	396	(380)	96.8	(98.7)
Industrial	69	(100)	97	(77)	92	(68)	-	-
Mixed Use ⁴	0	(1)	81	(59)	69	(53)	-	-
Residential	3553	(4835)	4086	(4721)	3850	(4460)	94.2	(94.5)
Other	322	(411)	339	(340)	303	(298)	89.4	(87.6)
All Applications	4774	(6268)	5374	(5946)	5028	(5593)	93.6	(94.1)

¹ All applications received in the year may not have had a decision issued within the same time period and applications decided in the year may not have been received in the same time period. Therefore direct comparisons between the figures can not be made. Applications received also include withdrawn applications.

² Applications decided do not include withdrawn applications

³ The number and per cent of applications approved is based on the number of decisions issued in the same year.

⁴ Mixed Use applications will include some residential units

⁵ Residential applications include housing, holiday chalets, sheltered housing, mobile homes, caravans, domestic extensions and residential or nursing homes. Commercial types include shops, car parks, hotels and restaurants, offices and motor trade facilities. Industrial types include quarries, warehousing and fuel depots. Government and civic types include police stations, civic amenity sites, education and medical establishments, utilities and recreational facilities.

- numbers are too small to calculate meaningful percentages

^P provisional

Table 5 All applications received and decided for residential¹ developments in urban and rural areas by type of application^P
Northern Ireland, January to March 2009, (January to March 2008 in brackets)

Type of Development	Applications Received ²			Applications Decided ³			Applications Approved ⁴		
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	
Outline Planning Permission	84	(189)	141	(176)	91	(123)	64.5	(69.9)	
Full Planning Permission	1365	(2191)	1779	(1899)	1635	(1777)	91.9	(93.6)	
Applications in Approval of Reserved Matters	36	(55)	44	(41)	44	(41)	-	-	
Urban Areas	83	(114)	73	(102)	68	(93)	-	(91.2)	
Certificates of Lawful Use or Development	15	(32)	27	(17)	27	(15)	-	-	
Other Types of Consents ⁵	1583	(2581)	2064	(2235)	1865	(2049)	90.4	(91.7)	
All residential applications in Urban Areas									
Outline Planning Permission	448	(152)	172	(217)	160	(171)	-	(78.8)	
Full Planning Permission	1128	(1206)	1160	(1186)	1139	(1159)	98.2	(97.7)	
Applications in Approval of Reserved Matters	370	(846)	659	(1051)	657	(1050)	99.7	(99.9)	
Rural Areas	18	(38)	16	(22)	15	(22)	-	-	
Certificates of Lawful Use or Development	6	(12)	15	(10)	14	(9)	-	-	
Other Types of Consents ⁵	1970	(2254)	2022	(2486)	1985	(2411)	98.2	(97.0)	
All residential applications in Rural Areas									
All Residential Applications in Northern Ireland	3553	(4835)	4086	(4721)	3850	(4460)	94.2	(94.5)	

¹ Residential applications include housing, holiday chalets, sheltered housing, mobile homes, caravans, domestic extensions and residential or nursing homes. Commercial types include shops, car parks, hotels and restaurants, offices and motor trade facilities. Industrial types include quarries, warehousing and fuel depots. Government and civic types include police stations, civic amenity sites, education and medical establishments, utilities and recreational facilities.

² All applications received in the year may not have had a decision issued within the same time period and applications decided in the year may not have been received in the same time period. Therefore direct comparisons between the figures can not be made. Applications received also include withdrawn applications.

³ Applications decided do not include withdrawn applications

⁴ The number and per cent of applications approved is based on the number of decisions issued in the same year.

⁵ Other types of consent include Consent to Display, Listed Building Consent, Hazard Substance Consent and Conservation Area Consent

- numbers are too small to calculate meaningful percentages

^P provisional

Table 6 All applications received and decided for residential¹ developments in urban and rural areas by type of development^P

Northern Ireland, January to March 2009, (January to March 2008 in brackets)

Location	Type of Development	Applications Received ²			Applications Decided ³			Applications Approved ⁴		
		Number	Percentage	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Percentage
Applications in urban areas	New single dwellings	134	(228)	174	(227)	134	(172)	77.0	(75.8)	-
	Replacement single dwellings	28	(46)	49	(22)	47	(20)	-	(97.8)	-
	Domestic alterations and extensions	1087	(1448)	1226	(1393)	1188	(1362)	96.9	(96.2)	98.0
Applications in rural areas	New single dwellings	927	(1006)	781	(1254)	765	(1206)	100.0	(99.1)	98.3
	Replacement single dwellings	383	(397)	458	(528)	458	(523)	79.0	(82.2)	96.6
	Domestic alterations and extensions	354	(501)	422	(469)	415	(461)	98.3	(94.9)	-
Applications in urban and rural areas	Housing Developments ⁵	313	(830)	566	(551)	447	(453)	79.0	(82.2)	96.6
	Other ⁶	327	(379)	410	(277)	396	(263)	94.2	(94.5)	-
All Residential Applications in Northern Ireland		3553	(4835)	4086	(4721)	3850	(4460)	94.2	(94.5)	-

¹ Residential applications include housing, holiday chalets, sheltered housing, mobile homes, caravans, domestic extensions and residential or nursing homes.² All applications received in the year may not have had a decision issued within the same time period and applications decided in the year may not have been received in the same time period. Therefore direct comparisons between the figures can not be made. Applications received also include withdrawn applications.³ Applications decided do not include withdrawn applications⁴ The number and per cent of applications approved is based on the number of decisions issued in the same year.⁵ Housing developments also include apartments.⁶ Other includes temporary buildings, change of use and renewal of planning permissions.

- numbers are too small to calculate meaningful percentages

^P provisional

Section 5 - Notes on the Data

- The records of all applications from 1 January to 31 March 2009 were transferred in May 2009 from a live database and inspected for consistency in coding. The comparative figures from 2007/08 were transferred from a frozen database in July 2008 and also checked for coding anomalies.
 - Quarterly statistics are provisional. Final figures for 2008/09 will be published in the 2008/09 annual report.

Notes on the speed of decisions

Planning decisions are categorised as major, intermediate and minor, depending on the type of land use. Intermediate applications, which are predominately single dwellings, usually take the longest number of weeks for a decision to be reached. The majority of major applications are multiple housing, commercial and government and civic types of development. Minor applications, which are mainly residential alterations and extensions, take the least number of weeks for a decision to be reached. The time taken to process a decision is calculated from the date on which an application is deemed valid to the date on which the decision is issued. The average processing time is the median.

Section 6 – Appendices

Appendix 1 – Types of Application

A number of different types of application are received by Planning Service and are categorized into the following groups:

- **Outline permission**

An application for outline planning permission can be used to ascertain whether a proposed development is acceptable in principle. This usually means that detailed drawings are not needed. However the Planning Service can, in certain circumstances, require the submission of additional information, or insist that an application for full planning permission be submitted.

- **Full permission**

A full planning application requires the submission of all details of the proposal. This type of application would be appropriate, for example, if a change of use of land or buildings is proposed.

- **Approval of Reserved Matters**

If outline permission is granted, a subsequent permission relating to the siting, design, external appearance, means of access and landscaping details known as 'reserved matters' will be required before building work can commence. The reserved matter application must be consistent with the outline permission and take into account any conditions that have been given in the original permission. If the development proposal changes, it may be necessary to start again with a fresh application.

- **Consent to Display**

Advertisement consent is normally required to display an advertisement particularly large signs and illuminated adverts.

- **Listed Building Consent**

Works that would affect the character of a listed building need listed building consent. This includes work to the internal or external fabric of the building or any demolition. It should be noted that the requirement for Listed Building Consent is in addition to any requirement for planning permission.

- **Conservation Area Consent**

Works that would entail the full or partial demolition of a non-listed building in a conservation area need conservation area consent. It should be noted that the requirement for Conservation Area Consent may be in addition to any requirement for planning permission.

- **Certificates of Lawful Use or Development (Lawful Development Certificates)**

The Planning Service will issue a Certificate of Lawful Use or Development if it is satisfied that a particular development is lawful within the provisions of planning legislation. Examples include proposed extensions, which fall within the provisions of the Planning (General Development) Order (Northern Ireland) 1993 for permitted development and do not require planning permission, or uses that have become lawful due to the length of time they have been in existence.

- **Hazardous Substances Consent**

The Planning (Control of Major-Accident Hazards) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2000 are concerned with the storage and use of hazardous substances which could, in quantities at or above specified limits, present a major off-site risk. Hazardous Substances Consent ensures that hazardous substances can be kept or used in significant amounts only after Planning Service has had the opportunity to assess the degree of risk arising to persons in the surrounding area, and to the environment.

Appendix 2 – Types of Development Proposal

The applications for planning permissions received and decided in 2008/09 comprise a wide variety of types of development.

These include:

- **Residential** - housing developments (incorporating a mixture of house types and apartments), purpose built apartment developments, sheltered housing schemes, single dwellings including dwellings on farms, holiday chalets, caravans and mobile homes, alteration, extension or improvement of existing dwellings, residential homes or nursing homes.
- **Industrial and Manufacturing** – Factories, warehousing, light and general industrial floorspace, quarries, sand and gravel extraction and fuel depots.
- **Commercial** – Food supermarkets and superstores, non food retailing, major retail developments exceeding 1000 sq m, alterations, extensions and improvements to buildings used for retailing, retail warehouses, warehouse clubs, post offices, factory outlets, petrol stations, offices, purpose built office developments, hotels, motels and restaurants, car parking, and motor vehicle display, hire, repair or sale.
- **Mixed Use** – Application for mixed use buildings or mixed use developments incorporated a mix of complementary uses, such as residential, retailing, offices, community and leisure uses, within a building, buildings or on a development site.
- **Change of Use** – Application for a change in the use of land or buildings including changes to residential, retailing, offices, community or leisure uses.
- **Government and Civic** – Police stations, coastguard stations, civic amenity sites, recycling centres, schools and colleges, hospitals, clinics, other medical establishments including surgeries and dental practices. “Hard infrastructure” facilities such as roads, water mains, water treatment works, trunk sewers, waste water treatment works and natural gas pipelines. Recreational facilities including indoor and outdoor sports facilities, and swimming pools.
- **Agricultural** – Agricultural buildings including buildings or structures for the storage of slurry and/or manure, agricultural glasshouses, stables and livery yards and infilling of land for agricultural purposes.
- **Other types of development** – amendments to existing applications and miscellaneous applications which include satellite dishes, cash dispensers, ancient monuments, and access fences and walls.

Appendix 3 - Key Performance Targets

Public Service Agreement (PSA) Targets (2010/11)

The key Ministerial targets for the Planning Service, as reflected in the Department of the Environment's Public Service Agreement (PSA), set the time taken to process planning applications to decision or withdrawal by 31 March 2011 as follows:

- 60% of Major planning applications processed in 23 weeks;
- 70% of Intermediate planning applications processed in 31 Weeks; and
- 80% of Minor planning applications processed in 18 Weeks

Agency's Business Plan Targets (2008/09)

In addition to the Agency's Public Service Agreement targets, the Planning Service Business Plan 2008/09 includes operational targets for validating applications, issuing decisions and for reducing the number of long outstanding applications as follows:

- 75% of all applications to be validated within 6 days;
- 95% of all applications to be validated within 10 days;
- 75% of decisions to issue within 2 weeks of last Council consultation;
- 95% of decisions to issue within 4 weeks of last Council consultation;
- 15% reduction in the number of applications in the system for longer than 12 months.
- 94% of Property Certificates to be issued within 10 working days of receipt

Appendix 4 - Contact points for further information

Development management statistics

An electronic version of this Quarterly planning statistics publication is available at http://www.planningni.gov.uk/Corporate_Services/stats/planning-statistics.htm

Annual Statistical reports are available at http://www.planningni.gov.uk/Corporate_Services/stats/planning-statistics.htm

Enquiries about the figures in this publication or requests for extracts of the data should be addressed to:

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