

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

FROM: HEAD OF CORPORATE SERVICES

REPORT NUMBER F134

**TO: OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
(STEWARDSHIP) COMMITTEE**

DATE OF MEETING 28 November 2006

LOCAL LAND CHARGES – PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

1. SUMMARY

This report sets out the latest performance trends for the Local Land Charges service. The report is for information only.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That the contents of this report be noted.

The Committee is able to resolve this matter.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 None.

4. KEY INFORMATION

4.1 The Committee has asked for quarterly reports on the performance of the Local Land Charges section, with particular reference to the percentage of standard searches processed within 10 working days, which is a former Best Value Performance Indicator.

4.2 The target for the year 2006/07 is to return 90% of standard searches within the specified period and performance for the first quarter was 99.32%, which represented 436 responses out of 439 standard searches received. In the second quarter (July – September) all 458 standard searches were returned within 10 working days. The trend continued in October when, once more, 100% of standard searches were returned within the required time. The cumulative position for the current year is therefore 99.71%. This is particularly pleasing, as the total number of searches has also increased, with over 150 more searches (of all types) processed so far this year compared to the same period in 2005/06; moreover, in August 2006 the number of standard searches received was the highest for any single month since May 2004.

4.3 Performance is on target and, recently, has improved still further so that by the end of the first week of this month most standard searches were being answered within 4 working days. It remains important that this level of performance is maintained so that the Council is best placed to provide searches as part of the Home Information Packs (HIPs) that will be required by property vendors from summer 2007.

5. **APPENDICES**

None.

6. **BACKGROUND PAPERS REFERRED TO**

None.

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