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30 January 2024

## **DEVON BUILDING CONTROL PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE**

A meeting of the Devon Building Control Partnership Committee will be held on **Friday, 9th February, 2024** in the Council Chamber, Forde House, Brunel Road, Newton Abbot, TQ12 4XX at **10.00 am**

### Membership:

Councillor John Birch	South Hams District Council
Councillor Ric Cheadle	West Devon Borough Council
Councillor John McKay	South Hams District Council
Councillor Colin Parker	
Councillor Terry Southcott (Chair)	West Devon Borough Council
Councillor Gary Taylor (Vice-Chair)	

Please Note: Filming is permitted during Committee meeting with the exception where there are confidential or exempt items, which may need to be considered in the absence of the press and public. By entering the meeting room you are consenting to being filmed.

## **A G E N D A**

### **Part I (Open to the public)**

#### **Part I (Open to the Public)**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes (Pages 3 - 6)
3. Declarations of interest.

If Councillors have any questions relating to predetermination or interests in items on this Agenda, please contact the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting.

4. Part 1. Operational Report Q2 and Q3 2023-24 (Pages 7 - 10)
5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 - Exclusion of Press and Public  
It is considered that the Committee would be unlikely to exclude the press and public during consideration of the items on this agenda, but if it should wish to do so, the following resolution should be passed:-

**RECOMMENDED** that, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting of the particular item(s) on the grounds that it involve(s) the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

**Part II (Private)**

**Items which may be taken in the absence of the Public and Press on grounds that Exempt Information may be disclosed.**

6. Part 2. Operational Report Q2 and Q3 2023-24 (Pages 11 - 14)
7. Part 2. DBCP Operational Plan Q2 & 3 2023-2024 (Pages 15 - 26)
8. Part 2 Financial Monitoring Report Q3 2023-24 and budget proposals for 2024-25 (Pages 27 - 32)

**DEVON BUILDING CONTROL PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE****22 SEPTEMBER 2023**Present:

Councillors McKay, Southcott and G Taylor

Members in Attendance:

Councillors C Parker

Apologies:

Councillors Birch and Cheadle

Officers in Attendance:

Scott Adams, Group Leader, Strategic Place - Building Control

Christopher Morgan, Trainee Democratic Services Officer

Nigel Hunt, Head of Partnership

Lisa Lake, Business Development and Partnership Support Manager

Nicola Denton, Business Development and Support Manager

David Bealing, Group Manager

**120. ELECTION OF CHAIR**

It was proposed by Councillor C Parker and seconded by Councillor G Taylor that Councillor Southcott be appointed Chair of Devon Building Control Partnership Committee 2023-2024.

A vote was taken – all were in favour.

Resolved

That Councillor Southcott be appointed Chair of Devon Building Control Partnership Committee 2023-2024.

**121. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR**

It was proposed by Councillor C Parker and seconded by Councillor McKay that Councillor Taylor be appointed Vice-Chair of Devon Building Control Partnership Committee 2023-2024.

A vote was taken – all were in favour.

Resolved

That Councillor Taylor be appointed Vice-Chair of Devon Building Control Partnership Committee 2023-2024.

**122. MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor G Taylor and seconded by Councillor C Parker that the minutes of the previous meeting be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

A vote was taken – all were in favour

Resolved

That the minutes of the previous meeting be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**123. DBCP OPERATIONAL PLAN 2022-23 END OF YEAR**

The head of the partnership introduced the report to the Committee. The discussion included staffing, awards, recruitment, absence, monitoring, and finance.

In response to a query, the head of the partnership informed the Committee on the schedule of an apprentice.

Resolved

That the report be noted.

**124. DBCP OPERATIONAL PLAN Q1 2023-2024**

The head of the partnership introduced the report to the committee. The discussion included staffing, recruitment, finance, and staff training. This included training staff as part of new regulations.

Resolved

That the report be noted.

**125. OPERATIONAL REPORT 2022-2023 AND Q1 2023-24 PART 1**

The head of the partnership introduced the report to the committee. The discussion included performance, work undertaken, monitoring, and approved inspectors.

Resolved

That the report be noted.

**126. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC ACT**

It was proposed by Councillor Taylor and seconded by Councillor Parker that the press and public be excluded under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, on the grounds that it involve(s) the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

A vote was taken- all were in favour.

**127. OPERATIONAL REPORT 2022-2023 AND Q1 2023-24 PART 2**

The Head of the Partnership introduced the report to the committee. The discussion included absence, climate change, finance, cases, and legislation.

Resolved

That the report be noted.

**128. FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT 2022-23 PART 2**

The Head of the Partnership introduced the report to the committee. The discussion included spending, income, and staffing.

Resolved

That the report be noted.

The meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 11.27 am.

Chair  
Cllr Southcott

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## DEVON BUILDING CONTROL PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

### MEETING DATE 26/01/2024

<b>Report Title</b>	Operational Report 2023/24 Part 1
<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To provide an update on the operational performance of the Partnership for the periods above
<b>Recommendation(s)</b>	<b>The Committee RESOLVES to:</b>  <b>(1) Note the report</b>
<b>Financial Implications</b>	No specific financial implications highlighted in the report. Anita Carpenter Tel 01626 215248 <a href="mailto:anita.carpenter@teignbridge.gov.uk">anita.carpenter@teignbridge.gov.uk</a>
<b>Legal Implications</b>	"no specific legal implications"
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	The risks to the Partnership are currently being managed. Nigel Hunt Tel: 01626 215721 Email: <a href="mailto:nigel.hunt@devonbuildingcontrol.gov.uk">nigel.hunt@devonbuildingcontrol.gov.uk</a>
<b>Environmental/ Climate Change Implications</b>	The ability of Building Control to deliver services during times of increased restrictions on physical site inspections may have implications on the energy and carbon performance of buildings, however, experience from the initial lockdown in Spring 2020 and an increase in agile working should help to mitigate any significant negative effects.  William Elliott Climate Change Officer <a href="mailto:William.elliott@teignbridge.gov.uk">William.elliott@teignbridge.gov.uk</a>
<b>Report Author</b>	Nigel Hunt Tel: 01626 215721 Email: <a href="mailto:nigel.hunt@devonbuildingcontrol.gov.uk">nigel.hunt@devonbuildingcontrol.gov.uk</a>
<b>Partnership Chairman</b>	
<b>Appendices</b>	
<b>Background Papers</b>	None

## 1. PURPOSE

The Partnership operates under the Devon Building Control Partnership Agreement 2017.

## 2. REPORT DETAIL

The reports for the Joint Committee meetings are supported by the Partnership's Operational/Business Plan. This will be the main source of information/discussion with additional sensitive information contained in the Part 2 report. Also, as all financial information is considered confidential under the various Cipfa guidelines and Local Government Acts pertaining to Building Control there will no longer be any such information disclosed in Part 1 reports. The only financial data that the partnership is obliged to publish is a summary of our end of year accounts.

### 2.1 Operation

The Partnership has been in operation for 18 years and is hosted by Teignbridge District Council

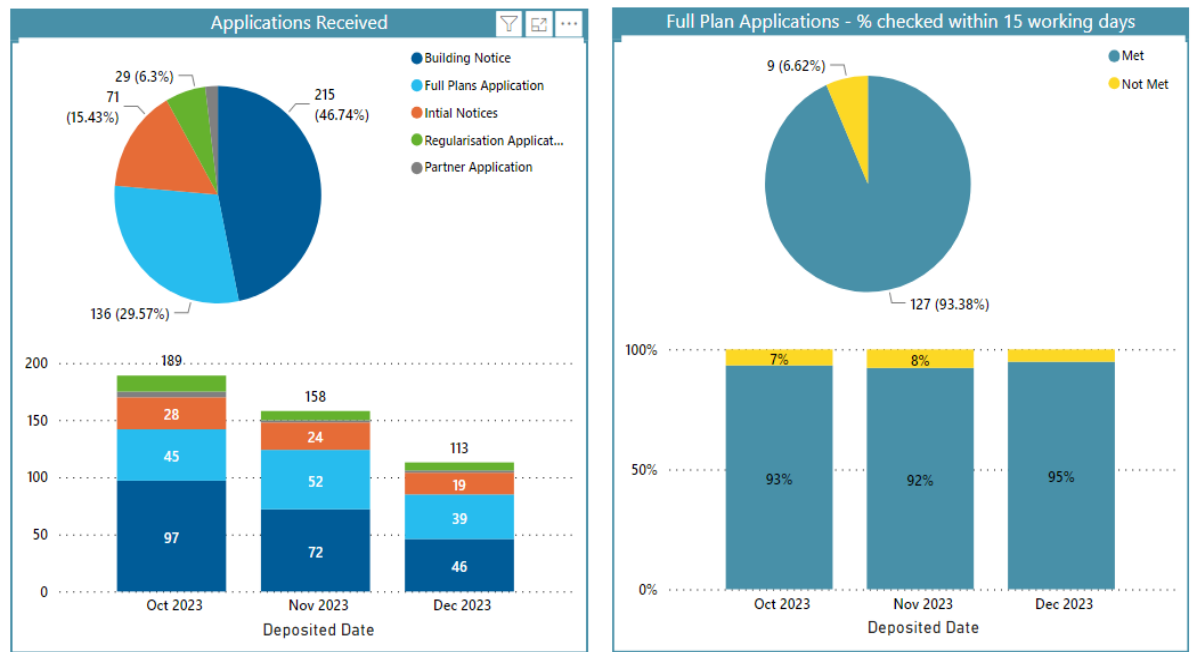
The Partnership continues to successfully deliver the building control service across the three Authorities, maintaining high standards and continues to operate within agreed annual budgets.

#### Performance

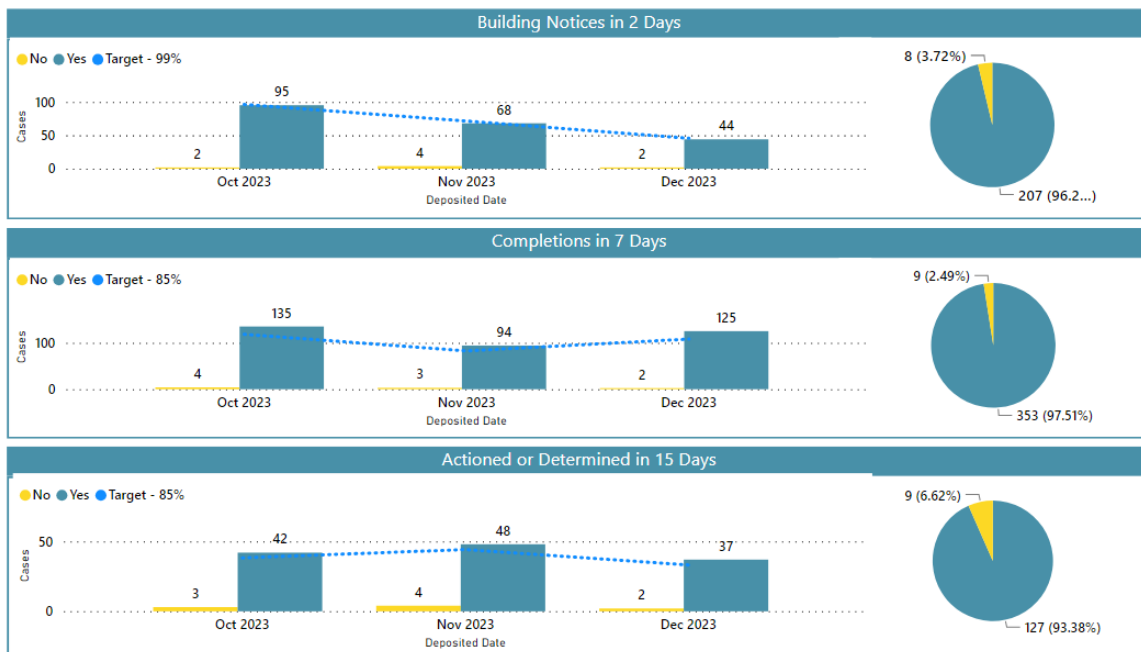
The Partnership continues to maintain all levels of service relating to PIs and receives positive comments from customers.

### Statistics for Q3 Financial Year 2023/24

#### Key Performance Indicators







## Staff

There has been a number of issues regarding staffing which will be discussed in Part 2.

## Marketing and events

The Partnership was successful in gaining 7 finalists at The National LABC Building Excellence Awards held in London on January 19th and delighted that the DBCP have been nominated for Team of the Year. The Partnership has commenced with a series of online briefing sessions with customers with regard to the changes in legislation.

### 2.2 Legal

The Partnership, currently hosted by Teignbridge District Council, meets quarterly to monitor its performance. Performance monitoring is required under the Partnership Agreement that came into operation on 1st April 2017

### 2.3 Risks

Risks to the Partnership's business are documented and reviewed annually. The risks to the Partnership are:

- Failure to deliver the service
- Staff resourcing

Loss of Market share

Lack of ability to react to changes in policy/legislation.

Changing workload

Failure to break even financially.

Withdrawal of a Partner council

#### **2.4 Environmental/Climate Change Impact**

There are no direct carbon/environmental implications arising from the recommendations in the report. However, it should be noted that the Partnership will be taking an active role in supporting the Southwest Energy Partnership (between Devon, Bristol and Plymouth Councils) on low carbon projects in the region, primarily retrofit.

### **3. CONCLUSION**

The Partnership Account continues to be managed by the Host Council in accordance with the Partnership Agreement, maintaining cost effectiveness and in accordance with agreed budgets.