



Email: Comsec@Teignbridge.gov.uk

10 July 2024

DEVON BUILDING CONTROL PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Devon Building Control Partnership Committee will be held on **Monday, 22nd July, 2024** in the Council Chamber, Forde House, Brunel Road, Newton Abbot, TQ12 4XX at **10.00 am**

Membership:

Councillor John Birch
Councillor Ric Cheadle
Councillor John McKay
Councillor Colin Parker
Councillor Terry Southcott
Councillor Gary Taylor

South Hams District Council
West Devon Borough Council
South Hams District Council
Teignbridge District Council
West Devon Borough Council
Teignbridge District Council

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. Election of Chair
To elect a Chair from Teignbridge District Council
3. Election of Vice Chair

To elect a Vice-Chair from South Hams District Council

4. Minutes (Pages 3 - 6)
5. 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.

6. Part 1 Operational Report Q1 2024-25 (Pages 7 - 10)
7. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 - Exclusion of Press and Public
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.

8. Part 2. Operational Report Q4 2023-24 and Q1 2024-25 (Pages 11 - 14)
9. Part 2. DBCP Operational Plan Q4 2023-2024 and Q1 2024-25 (Pages 15 - 26)
10. Part 2 Financial Monitoring Report Q4 End of year 2023-24 and Q1 2024-25 (Pages 27 - 32)

DEVON BUILDING CONTROL PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE**25 MARCH 2024**Present:

Councillors Birch, Cheadle, McKay, C Parker, Southcott (Chair) and G Taylor (Vice-Chair)

Officers in Attendance:

Drew Powell, Corporate Director – Strategy and Governance
Christopher Morgan, Trainee Democratic Services Officer
Nigel Hunt, Head of the Partnership
Lisa Lake, Business Development and Partnership Support Manager
Nicola Denton, Business Development and Support Manager
David Bealing, Building Control Group Manager
Raine Tudor-Williams, Democratic Services Administration Assistant
Anita Carpenter, Accountant

1. MINUTES

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

Resolved

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

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

None.

3. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Committee discussed the use of substitutes which is outlined in the standing orders. They agreed that officers would bring the appointment of committee substitutes to the Partners' Full Councils.

It was agreed that the standing orders would be circulated to committee members in order to consider additional amendments to them regarding the appointment of substitutes and correcting wording at a future meeting.

4. ADMINISTRATION OF THE PARTNERSHIP

It was proposed by Cllr Southcott and seconded by Cllr C Parker that the Committee move into part 2 to discuss this item.

The Committee discussed the administration of the Partnership by officers. It was agreed that a working group would be created comprising one member and one officer from each council in the partnership plus the head of the partnership. This group's role would be to work through the partnership agreement and consider amendments as well as to highlight where action was needed. The Councillors sitting on the group would be Birch, G Taylor and Southcott.

Resolved

That a group be formed to work on amending and highlighting sections of the partnership agreement.

5. PART 1 OPERATIONAL REPORT Q2 AND Q3 2023-24

It was proposed by Cllr Birch and seconded by Cllr G Taylor that the Part 1 Operational Report be noted by the Committee

Resolved

That that Part 1 Operational Report be noted by the Committee.

6. SCHEDULING OF DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The Committee noted the future meeting dates on the agenda frontpage and the necessity of achieving quorum.

7. PART 2 OPERATIONAL REPORT Q2 AND Q3 2023-24

The Head of the Partnership introduced the item to the Committee. The discussion included finance, enforcement, training, discussions with clients, changes stemming from regulators, staffing, and workload.

Resolved

That the report be noted.

8. PART 2 FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT Q3 2023-24 AND BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR 2024-25

The Head of the Partnership introduced the item to the Committee. The discussion included the budget, salary, support services, costs, impact of recession, fees, and work environment.

It was proposed by Cllr Birch and seconded by Cllr G Taylor that the report be noted but that the head of the partnership feedback additional information at the next committee meeting.

Resolved

That the report be noted and that the head of the partnership feedback additional financial information at the next committee meeting.

9. PART 2. DBCP OPERATIONAL PLAN Q2 & 3 2023-2024

The Head of the Partnership introduced the item to the Committee. The discussion included feedback from customers, certification, and finance.

Resolved

That the Part 2 Operational report be noted

The meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 12.15 pm.

Chair
Cllr Terry Southcott

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DEVON BUILDING CONTROL PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

MEETING DATE 22/07/2024

Report Title	Operational Report Q1 2024/25 Part 1
Purpose of Report	To provide an update on the operational performance of the Partnership for the periods above
Recommendation(s)	The Committee RESOLVES to: (1) Note the report
Financial Implications	No specific financial implications highlighted in the report. Anita Carpenter Tel 01626 215248 anita.carpenter@teignbridge.gov.uk
Legal Implications	“no specific legal implications”
Risk Assessment	The risks to the Partnership are currently being managed. Nigel Hunt Tel: 01626 215721 Email: nigel.hunt@devonbuildingcontrol.gov.uk
Environmental/ Climate Change Implications	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 William.elliott@teignbridge.gov.uk
Report Author	Nigel Hunt Tel: 01626 215721 Email: nigel.hunt@devonbuildingcontrol.gov.uk
Partnership Chairman	
Appendices	
Background Papers	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

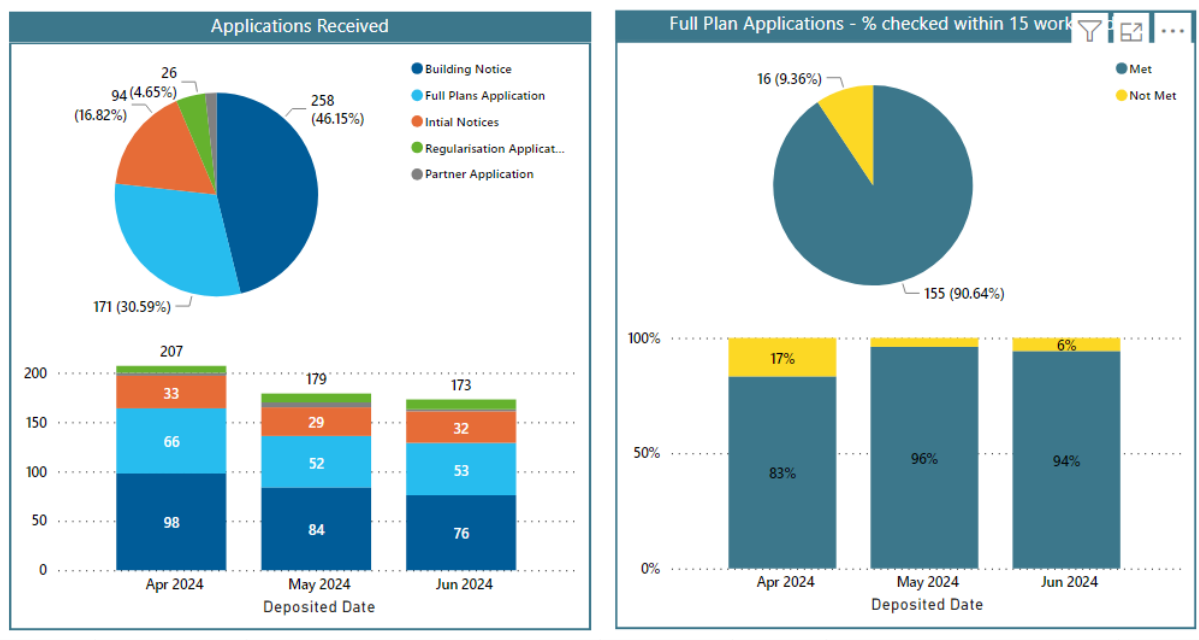
The Partnership continues to successfully deliver the building control service across the three Authorities, maintaining high standards and continues to operate within agreed annual budgets.

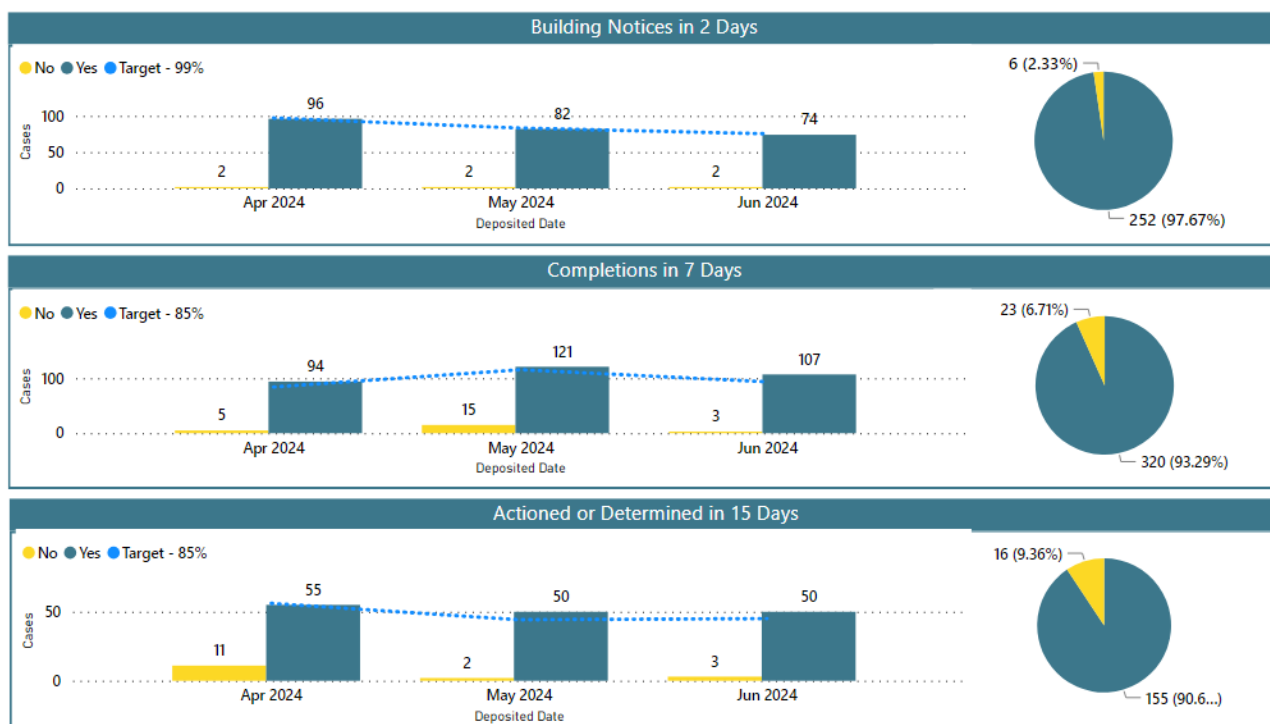
Performance

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

Statistics for Q1 Financial Year 2024/25

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 has been successful in gaining 23 finalists at The South West Regional LABC Building Excellence Awards, the highest number by any Authority within Cornwall, Devon, Dorset and Somerset. Judging is to take place in July. The Partnership has commenced with a series of online and in person briefing sessions with customers with regard to the changes in legislation as well as one to one sessions with individual Architectural Practices.

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:

Committee Devon Building Control Partnership
Date of meeting 22nd July 2024

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.