



Office of the
Deputy Prime Minister

Creating sustainable communities

Development control targets

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Planning Development Control Division

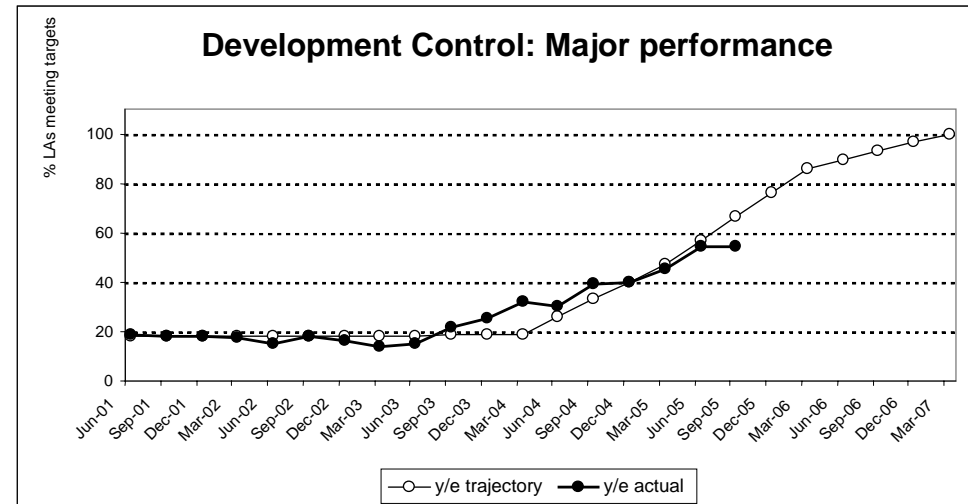
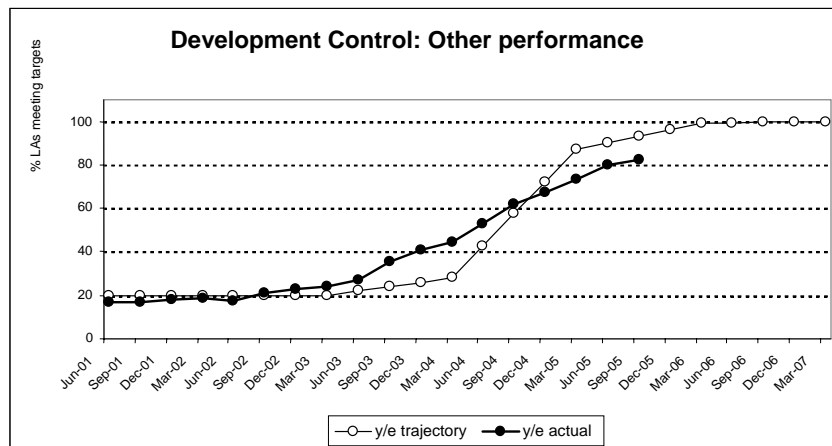
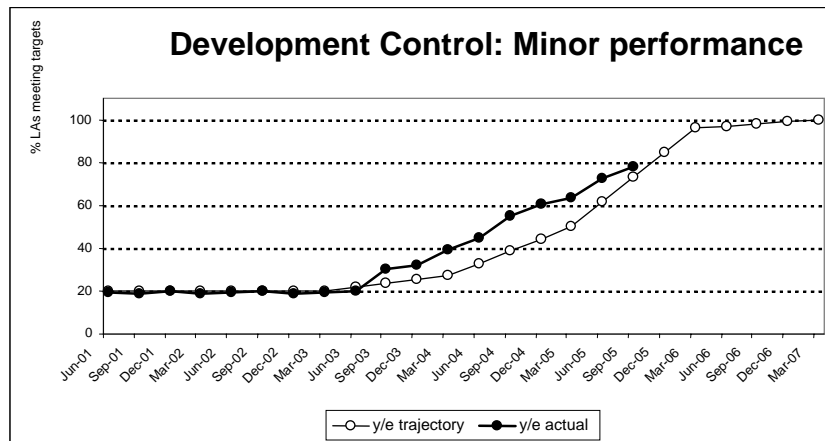
ODPM

local and regional government • housing • planning • fire • regeneration • social exclusion • neighbourhood renewal



Current position

“The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) is committed to improving the development control process and meeting the objectives of the Sustainable Communities Plan.”





Planning Delivery Grant

Planning Delivery Grant

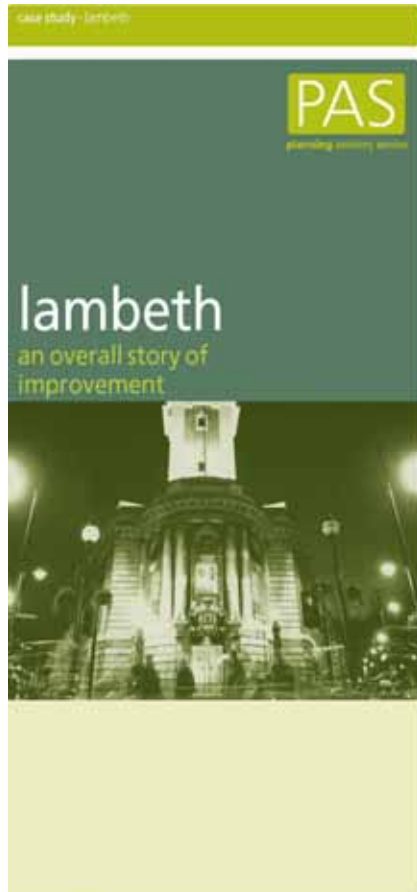
- £350m has been provided to local planning authorities over the past 3 years with a further £135m to be allocated in 2006/07

PDG Impact Report – Addison & Associates and ARUP.

- Despite lack of ring fencing and scope for reducing base budgets, survey responses showed that **97%** of PDG was used to support additional activities within planning services.
- PDG has been invested in the implementation of the new plan-making system brought in in the 2004 Act. "Significant proportions of PDG have been used to re-establish forward planning teams in order to meet the requirements of LDF production. It is difficult to see how this could have been achieved without PDG."
- There is no generalised statistical evidence to suggest that PDG has resulted in any unintended consequences. Research could not identify a link between refusal or withdrawal rates and PDG allocations.
- PDG has acted as a strong incentive towards performance improvement



Successes – Planning Advisory Service Case Studies



London Borough of Lambeth

- Originally identified as one of the poorest performing authorities in England.
- Recognised they had problems and set a course for improving the service through development of an improvement plan and Business Process Re-engineering

“As a result of these changes, Lambeth saw a dramatic improvement in its planning performance and substantial Planning Delivery Grant that has been re-invested in the continuous improvement of the service.”

Successes – Planning Advisory Service Case Studies

Reading Borough Council

“By taking a more focused, documented approach to performance management, in conjunction with an increased emphasis on improving processes, Reading Borough Council has demonstrated significant improvement in the number of major applications they have processed within target times in the last two years.”

