

**Presented to Parliament pursuant to Schedule 2 to the Planning and  
Compulsory Purchase Act 2004**

**REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE IN COMPLYING WITH STATUTORY  
TIMETABLES FOR PLANNING DECISIONS**

**REPORT TO PARLIAMENT BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMUNITIES  
AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT: 2014-2015; 2015-2016 & 2016-2017**

**Introduction**

1. In compliance with paragraph 8 of Schedule 2 to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government hereby reports to Parliament on performance in complying with the timetables set for planning decisions under the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of Schedule 2.
2. This information relates on an annual basis to all such decisions issued between 1 April 2014 and 31 March 2017.
3. No Parliamentary proceedings apply to this paper.

**Background information**

4. Statutory timetabling applies to called-in planning applications and planning appeals recovered for the Secretary of State's decision under the provisions of sections 77 and 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, along and any other cases directly "linked" to such decisions (such as associated listed building consents and appeals against enforcement notices). However statutory timetables do not apply to any of these categories of cases if they have been decided jointly with a Minister in another Department or if they are linked to a type of case for which another Secretary of State has responsibility. Nor do they apply to planning appeals decided by Inspectors.
5. All the figures below relate to "cases", some of which cover several individual decisions.

**Review of performance**

6. For the year from 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015, 145 decisions, as outlined in paragraph 4, were issued by the Secretary of State. Of these, 138 cases were subject to statutory timetables, with 66 (48%) determined within target and 72 cases (52%) missing the statutory date.
7. For the year from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016, 67 decisions, as outlined in paragraph 4, were issued by the Secretary of State. All were subject to statutory timetables, with 31 (46%) determined within target and 36 cases (54%) missing the statutory date.
8. For the year from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017, 92 decisions, as outlined in paragraph 4, were issued by the Secretary of State. Of these, 91 were subject to

statutory timetables, with 46 (51%) determined within target and 45 cases (49%) missing the statutory date.

### **Performance in complying with statutory timetables**

#### **2014-15**

9. Of the 72 cases which did not meet their target, 11 raised unusually complex issues which required careful consideration; and 61 were delayed due to workload pressures.

#### **2015-16**

10. Of the 36 cases which did not meet their target, 12 raised unusually complex issues which required careful consideration; and 24 were delayed due to workload pressures.

#### **2016-17**

11. Of the 45 cases which did not meet their target, 36 raised unusually complex issues which required careful consideration; and 9 were delayed due to workload pressures.