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: 2010-2011; 2011-2012; 2012-2013 & 2013-2014

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 2010 and 31 March 2014.
- 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 2010 to 31 March 2011, 51 cases were subject to statutory timetables, with 48 determined within them.
- 7. For the year from 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012, 62 cases were subject to statutory timetables, with 49 determined within them.
- 8. For the year from 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013, 37 cases were subject to statutory timetables, with 16 determined within them.
- 9. For the year from 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014, 80 cases were subject to statutory timetables, with 52 determined within them.

Performance in complying with statutory timetables

2010-11

10. The targets were missed for 3 cases as a result of litigation relating to the revocation of Regional Strategies.

2011-12

11. Of the 13 cases which did not meet their target, one was delayed through litigation by the appellant; 4 were delayed through workload pressures; and 8 were delayed because they raised unusually complex issues which required careful consideration.

2012-13

12. Of the 21 cases which did not meet their target, one was delayed by the appellant; 8 were delayed because they raised unusually complex issues which required careful consideration; and 12 were delayed through workload pressures.

2013-14

13. Of the 28 cases which did not meet their target, 3 were delayed by one day as a result of the need to make a minor correction; 12 were delayed because they raised unusually complex issues which required careful consideration; and 13 were delayed through workload pressures.