



STAFF REPORT

TO: Environment & Planning Committee

FROM: Suzanne Westley, Customer Services Manager

REFERENCE: C657

SUBJECT: **STATISTICAL DATA FOR THE PERIOD JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2007 – REPORT EP07/11/04** - Report Prepared for 15 November 2007 meeting

1. INTRODUCTION

The attached report reflects in graphic form the number of applications received and decisions made by the department during the three month period July to September 2007.

2. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The number of applications for resource consent received has slightly increased over the reporting period year with 690 applications in 2006, compared with 736 during the same period this year. The “spike” in application numbers for permits to discharge relate to multiple consents sought within one subdivision development. Staff processed an average of 83% (previous year 63%) of consent applications within the statutory timeframe. A total of 82 applications were deferred under Section 37 of Resource Management Act 1991.

3. REGULATORY

The reporting year has seen a decrease by 52 in Building Consent application numbers. The decrease in application numbers has been in applications for building work other than new dwellings. During the July to September period in 2006, staff achieved an average of 47% of applications being processed within the statutory time frame of 20 working days. With increased staff numbers and improvements introduced to processing systems, this average has increased to 80% of applications being processed within the 20 working days.

Suzanne Westley
Customer Services Manager

4. MANAGER’S COMMENT

While it is good to see improvements in consent timeframes, the Chief Executive and I have agreed that we need to do better and we are looking at further recruitment options. Every council in NZ is in the same position so there is no instant remedy. Increased resourcing will lead to increased costs and higher recovery charges. Further information will be reported through the budget round.