REPORT CARD ON STATE AGENCY DEVELOPMENT PROCESSING

A report card on the processing of development applications by State agencies released today has found 90% of decisions are made within 40 days.

NSW Minister for Planning, Tony Kelly, today released the Concurrence and Referral Monitoring report for the period from 1 July-31 December 2009.

“The report, for the first time, outlines the performance of individual State agencies in responding to requests for their approval or comments on development applications,” the Minister said.

“During the report’s period, 9,125 development applications were processed by State agencies, with an average net processing time of 14.15 days.”

This net period excludes time waiting for more information from applicants and time taken receiving, and sending, the proposal to local councils.

Mr Kelly said the Department will continue to examine ways to keep State agency decision times down.

“For instance, in December 2008, the NSW Government removed 1,336 unnecessary clauses across 250 planning instruments which required councils to refer development issues to State agencies,” the Minister said.

“Many of these clauses covered matters where comprehensive guidelines were already in place to assist councils assessing development proposals.

“These figures indicate this decision is likely to have helped with the timely processing of development applications by State agencies.”

The report card can be found at www.planning.nsw.gov.au under ‘Performance Monitoring’ reports.