



RTPI Scotland
mediation of space · making of place



Progressing Performance: Investing in Scotland's Planning Service

Background Paper

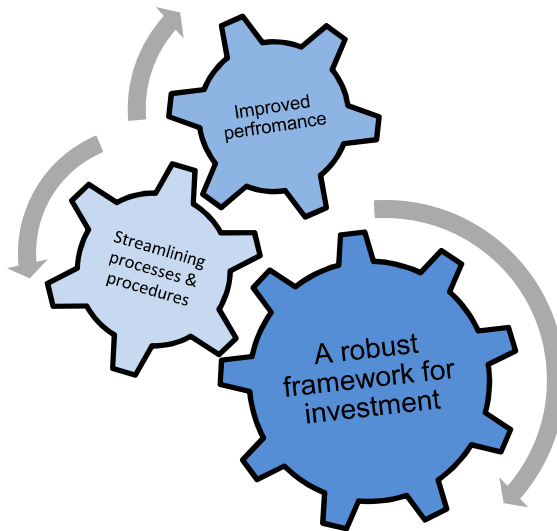
This paper was written by Thomas Fleming, RTPI Scotland
October 2015

CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----|
| TABLE OF FIGURES | 3 |
| RECOMMENDATIONS | 4 |
| EXECUTIVE SUMMARY | 5 |
| 1. INTRODUCTION | 7 |
| 2. METHODOLOGY..... | 8 |
| 3. MEASURING PLANNING PERFORMANCE..... | 9 |
| 4. COSTS, INVESTMENT AND RESOURCING | 15 |
| 5. IMPACT AND VALUE | 20 |
| 6. CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT IN THE PLANNING SERVICE | 22 |
| 7. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS | 28 |
| APPENDIX 1: CHANGE IN APPLICATION VOLUME (DECISIONS) | 32 |
| APPENDIX 2: CORRELATIONAL DATA..... | 34 |
| APPENDIX 3: APPLICATION VOLUME TO PROCESSING TIMES AND CHANGE IN PROCESSING TIMES (MAJOR AND LOCAL)..... | 37 |
| APPENDIX 4 APPEALS VOLUME AND UPHELD DECISIONS..... | 38 |
| APPENDIX 5 PROPORTIONAL APPLICATION VOLUME TO PROCESSING TIMES..... | 39 |
| APPENDIX 6. NUMBER OF PLANNING GRADUATES IN SCOTLAND. | 40 |

TABLE OF FIGURES

| | |
|---|----|
| Figure 1 Annual average processing times | 5 |
| Figure 2 Report methodological structure..... | 8 |
| Figure 3 Sources and datasets.. | 9 |
| Figure 4 Average major application processing times. | 10 |
| Figure 5 Average local application processing times..... | 10 |
| Figure 6 Processing agreements and percentage decided within agreed timescale..... | 12 |
| Figure 7 Per cent changes in processing times and application volume. | 12 |
| Figure 8 Comparison of major processing times (with and without legal agreements), average major processing times and major housing processing times. | 12 |
| Figure 9 Attributes of 'better' performing quarters..... | 13 |
| Figure 10 Total appeal actions and per cent of those in which original decision upheld. | 14 |
| Figure 11 Volume of appeals handled by DPEA and total appeal actions.. | 14 |
| Figure 12 Per cent of total applications approved by quarter..... | 14 |
| Figure 13 Distribution of Planning and Development Net Revenue Expenditure, 2013/2014 and 2015/2016 (anticipated)..... | 15 |
| Figure 14 Planning service as per cent of total council net revenue expenditure, 2013/2014.. | 15 |
| Figure 15 Planning Net Revenue Expenditure and Gross Expenditure among local authorities by year..... | 18 |
| Figure 16 Observed and projected block grant budgets | 19 |
| Figure 17 Total staffing by department, 2014/2015. | 20 |
| Figure 18 Distribution of FTE in planning departments in 2014 | 20 |
| Figure 19 Benefits of processing agreements | 21 |
| Figure 20 Developer contributions in LDPs | 23 |
| Figure 21 Average service improvements (2011-2015) by year and status. | 24 |
| Figure 22 Distribution of service improvements in progress or completed by category..... | 24 |
| Figure 23 Potential performance measurement framework. | 25 |
| Figure 24 (Left) Age of 'active' development plans..... | 26 |
| Figure 25 (Right) Distribution of plan by category and number..... | 26 |
| Figure 26 Indicator relationships in spatial planning.. | 27 |



RECOMMENDATIONS

Taking current evidence into consideration, RTPI Scotland recommends the following:

Provide a robust framework for decision making on investment.

- There must be adequate investment in the planning system to ensure better outcomes. This depends on continuing to develop clear and dynamic performance criteria and rewarding improvement in processes and outcomes.
- Planning performance should be analysed holistically – integrating all planning ‘impacts’ – to assess how resources can be used and what they can achieve.
- All stakeholders in the planning process have a role to play in improving performance.
- Innovative income generating strategies (including changes to the planning fee structure) should be considered to cover costs.

Continue to improve performance:

- Improving planning performance, providing certainty for stakeholders and ensuring better outcomes for all parties should remain a priority.
- More work should be done to refine frameworks to measure quality ‘developments on the ground’ by improving and standardising ‘impact’ performance indicators.
- Work should continue to monitor and scrutinise existing key performance indicators, to develop and share best practice between authorities.

De-clutter existing processes and procedures:

- There may be a need for planning authorities to think about how their services are delivered to adapt to a changing resource context.
- Continuing a culture change in planning depends on developing more efficient processes, embracing technologies to improve transparency, data accessibility, and decision making.
- Responsive project management tools should be developed to ensure that development plan preparation is closely monitored and that approval and implementation remains on track.

WHAT WE KNOW:

- ↓ Average local processing times have **dropped by a week** since 2013.
- ↓ Planning will make up **only 0.63% of local authority budgets** in 2015/2016—a drop from 0.7% in 2013/2014.
- ↑ **Processing agreements have increased by 92%** from 2013/2014.
- ↑ The number of original decisions upheld in appeal has increased to **59% from 2013/2014**.
- The average age of local plans is 3.15 years old.
- 👉 49% of staff in planning departments is in development management.
- ↓ There has been close to a 20% reduction in planning department staff since 2010.
- ↓ **Gross expenditure in planning is to drop by £40 million** by 2015/2016 from 2010/2011, and **net revenue expenditure is to drop by £30 million** in the same period.
- **25% of authorities reached 1/3 cost recovery**, but 1/3 are **under 50% cost recovery**. Average cost recovery is 63%.
- Across all LPAs, average staff costs per authority were between £500k and £800k from 2011 and 2015.
- Planning authorities **completed 67% of their service improvements** in 2014/2015.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The planning service in Scotland has been improving, across a range of performance indicators. However, performance remains a difficult area to measure—the value and positive outcomes of planning are neither currently well-measured nor go hand-in-hand with internal performance measures. Continued support to planning authorities is essential to maintain the efficiency, economy and impact of the service.

In considering key performance indicators identified by the Scottish Government and Heads of Planning Scotland, and other outcomes and resourcing information the report highlights improvements in planning performance. Considering expected budgetary constraints, development pressure and debates about the future of planning resource allocation, the report calls for clear action to safe-guard resources while continuing to find innovative ways to raise revenue and improve services.

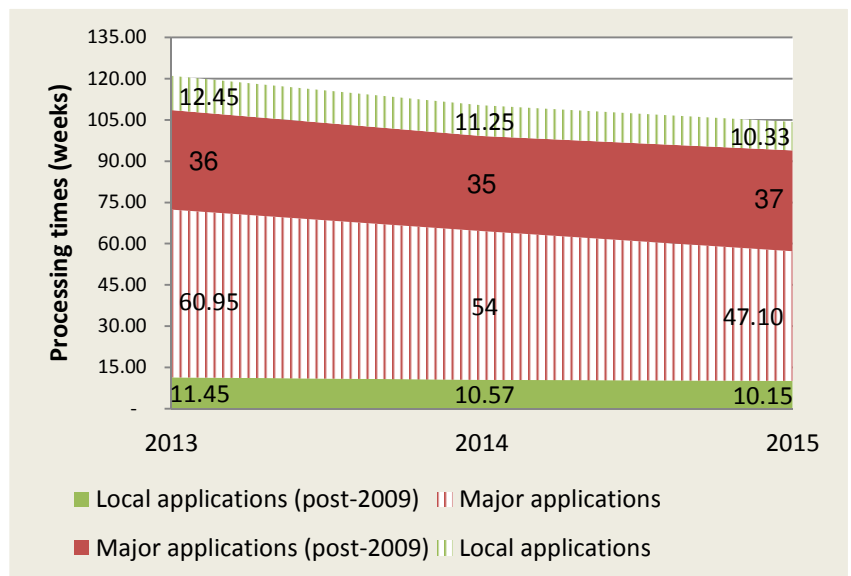


Figure 1 Annual average processing times

PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN IMPROVING PLANNING PERFORMANCE

Current performance data indicates improvements in many areas of the service among mixed results—due to slippages in average major application processing times—and amid fairly steady application volume from 2013 to 2015. There have been many positive developments. Specifically:

- **Local application processing times have continued to decrease** from 2013. Approval rates remain high at 93.5%;
- **Progress has been made in concluding legacy cases** (up 233% in Q4 2015, with a reduction in outstanding cases);
- The use of **processing agreements has increased by 92%** from 2013/2014 to 2014/2015, along with the number of those decided within their agreed timescales;
- The total proportion of **decisions upheld in appeal before Local Review Bodies and Scottish Ministers has increased** from 57% in 2013/2014 to 59% in 2014/2015, indicating improvement in the robustness of local planning authority decision-making; and
- The total number of cases decided by Local Review Bodies and Scottish Ministers **dropped by 7%** between 2012/2013 and 2014/2015.

Development planning must be considered alongside development management performance. Development planning data indicates that the majority of development plans remain on track. 83% of development plans are under 5 years old, averaging 3.15 years old, compared to 2004 when 70% were over 5 years old and one in five were over 15 years old. All Strategic Development Plans, which cover three quarters of Scotland's population, have met their timescales. The average age of an SDP is 1.9 years old.

Encouragingly, work is continuing to standardise current performance methodologies whilst developing a more robust performance framework. Service improvement markers, for example, show that an average of 8 out of 12 proposed improvements are completed by authorities whilst the number incomplete or abandoned has fallen since 2012. Of those completed and ongoing, RTPI has found that:

- 19% were general or operational;
- 15% regarded **customer service** and **stakeholder engagement**;
- 15% dealt with development management, guidance, planning conditions, etc.;
- 14% were devoted to **benchmarking and best practice**;
- 13% had to do with **communications and technology**;
- 9% dealt with Local Development Plans, action programmes, development briefs, etc.;
- 9% focussed on the natural or historical environment; and
- 6% were devoted to **masterplanning and design**.

Planning authorities are therefore committed to improving services and continuing the 'culture change' in planning. Traditional indicators provide a consistent and comparable basis for analysis and are crucial for understanding the responsiveness of the service, but should be broadened to consider wide-ranging effects of spatial planning to help improve processes and outcomes in the future.

FUNDING CONSTRAINTS WILL CONTINUE TO POSE CHALLENGES

Planning authorities have been tasked with streamlining processes and maintaining a high service standard amid budgetary constraints. This scrutiny is likely to continue without 'ring-fenced' funding and with resumed cuts. There are several factors that indicate reduced investment in the planning service:

- The Scottish Government's Block Grant is to decrease by over 19% between 2011 and 2019, affecting investment in the planning service;
- **Planning constitutes a small proportion of local authority budgets** and is set decrease further into 2015/2016 (a drop .7% of local authority budgets in 2013/2014 to .63% in 2015/2016, a difference of £3 million); and

- Between 2009/2010 to 2015/2016, **gross expenditure in planning will have dropped by nearly £40 million.**

The limited scope for authorities to raise income has more profound effects on the ability to meet Scottish Government policy of full cost recovery. Indeed, many planning authorities have not met full-cost recovery.

- Income from planning fees accounts for **63% of core processing costs** in 2013/2014;
- Nearly a third of reporting authorities fall beneath 50% full-cost recovery;
- **A third of authorities reached 66% cost recovery** in 2013/2014 (compared to 80% in 2005/2006); and
- The average 'cost' to the taxpayer per authority is £1.9 million.

Restrictive budgets and scrutiny over future resources may affect how planning authorities maintain adequate staff and improve the service, particularly with increased development pressure. Staff levels across planning departments have decreased by approximately 20% since 2009, and median departments have decreased from 27 in 2012/2013 to 25.5 in 2014/2015. It is estimated that staff costs account for a large portion of planning expenditure.

Improved processes and outcomes demand realistic financial resourcing. Income generated strategies should be considered to ensure full-cost recovery, either through increased planning application fees or charging for pre-application discussions following Scottish Government policy that the burden of processing applications should not only be borne by planning authorities.

A COMMITMENT TO CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT DEMANDS A COMMITMENT TO PROPER RESOURCING

Planning promotes sustainable economic growth, sustainable development and social justice. Planners enable the right developments to take place at the right time and in the right place, and this depends on the proper resourcing of the planning system. Planning performance is dependent on every party in the planning process. Given the key role that public sector planning plays in enabling and managing development, the Scottish Government should ensure proper resourcing to enable effective joint working between stakeholders whilst achieving greater transparency, efficiency, accessibility and positive and a responsive user-centred service called for by the Christie Commission (2011). Any future Scottish Government and local authorities must continue to invest in the planning service, to streamline procedures and replace the planning penalty clause for planning authorities with a system of incentivisation. Despite overall improvement, adapting to increased development pressure and decreased central funding will require more innovative solutions to maintain a responsive, transparent and effective service.

1. INTRODUCTION

This RTPi Scotland Background Paper examines current performance and resourcing in the Scottish planning service. It is produced in the context of debates about future resourcing of the planning service amid considerable budgetary constraints and pressure for 'continuous improvement' within local planning authorities, as outlined in Scottish Planning Policy. Planning services have traditionally been measured in terms of inputs, outputs and outcomes. This has been expressed in terms of costs, investment and staffing, performance, delivery (in areas such as housing¹) and more recently, actions supporting continuous improvement within services. In addition to analysing existing performance data, it will be

shown that other important areas equally crucial for outcomes are not as well-measured, particularly regarding impact and value.

The majority of this report uses indicators identified by the Scottish Government and Heads of Planning Scotland concerning development management functions within the planning service. This Paper's focus on the services provided by local planning authorities by no means discounts the work of key agencies in promoting and managing development but highlights the important service that public sector planning plays in promoting sustainable economic development and the extent to which planning modernisation has demonstrably impacted the planning service's efficiency, economy and value.

Following methodological notes, Section 3 looks at the performance indicators highlighted by Heads of Planning Scotland and the Scottish Government. Section 4 examines data relating to costs, investment and resourcing of the planning service, drawn from observed financial data, projected budgets and case studies. Section 5 briefly considers 'value and impact'. This section is methodologically under-developed, partly because of the difficulty in analysing relationships of effectiveness between identified spatial planning outcomes and socio-economic, geographical or demographic trends. Section 6 examines 'continuous improvement' within local planning authorities. This theme is central to current performance assessment particularly in view of reducing complexity and strategies for achieving the aims of modernisation. Finally, Section 7 and Section 8 discuss broad conclusions and make key recommendations.

2. METHODOLOGY

This RTPI Scotland background report focuses primarily on data published by Scottish Government, Audit Scotland, and by the Heads of Planning Scotland, whilst academic literature and comparative studies are cited where relevant. (Figure 3 indicates main sources and datasets.) The Report synthesises these sources for a holistic account of the Scottish planning service's performance whilst establishing the economic and political context for 'resourcing and performance', analysing performance data, and discussing the current methodologies and future directions for performance measurement.



Figure 2 The Report synthesises sources to examine the political and economic context, current performance data and the current and future methodologies behind successful planning performance.

There are well-rehearsed methodological constraints to measuring performance and resourcing.² Available data can be incomparable due to variable reporting methods, context-dependence, non-reporting and data sensitivity. There is potential incomparability and restrictions of some datasets but work is ongoing to adequately measure planning performance across local planning authorities. More fundamentally, data is limited to quantified outputs, reflecting the target-based priorities centred on processing times and application volume and type, and department profiles with supplementary information reported by local authorities. As such, while it is acknowledged that examining performance through global figures risks oversimplifying performance data, this Paper looks particularly at the development management functions as an important indication of the overall functionality and responsiveness of the planning service.

Performance measurements in Section 3 include most local planning authorities. However, National Parks, Strategic Development Planning Authorities, Key Agencies and Directorate

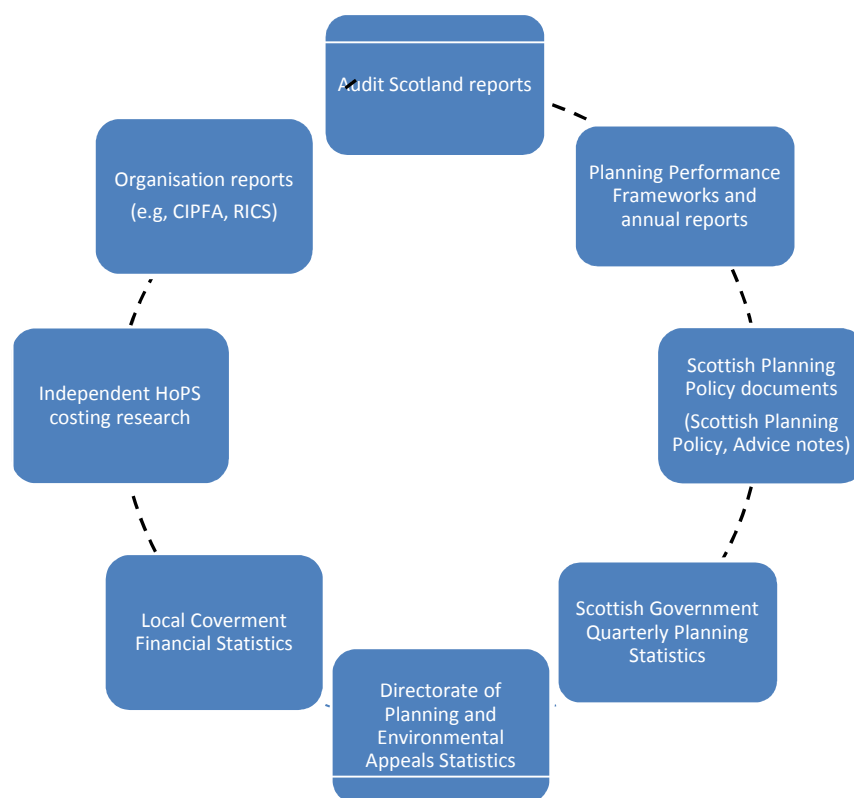


Figure 3 Sources and datasets. Note that this is not exhaustive.

for Planning and Environmental Appeals data are not included in some global figures, partly due to availability of data and their exclusion from primary data sets. It is also noted that much of the financial information presented in Section 4 does not include data from bodies such as the National Parks, SDPAs, or key agencies. This is due to the relative comparability and breadth of data publically available through current sources, though these bodies produce Planning Performance Frameworks with similar performance data. Where relevant, relationships between data sets are developed to analyse the relative coincidence between itemised variables (for example, between ‘number of processing agreements’ and ‘average processing times’).³ However, this cannot be taken as ‘causality’ between variables but rather provides a general indication of the strength of correlation over a period of time. Full results are available in Appendix 3.

Following established practice, most data and figures only include post-2009 applications for more accurate and up-to-date cross-sections of performance.

3. MEASURING PLANNING PERFORMANCE

Central to sustaining the culture of a modernised planning system is defining what a successful planning service looks like and whether or not planning is performing in this context. Performance is often framed in terms of inputs and outputs, such as the number of applications relative to processing times and is therefore expressed in terms of development management functions and application handling in particular. Based on current best practice and metrics, the planning service’s internal performance may be measured in terms of:

- Processing times; *relative to*
- Application volume and application type;
- Application approvals; *relative to the*
- Volume of appeals; *relative to the*
- Proportion of original decisions upheld.

Using processing times as an indication of a planning authority's overall performance should be done so cautiously: understanding the planning system requires more dynamic and wide-ranging metrics. Fortunately, work is ongoing in developing and measuring these indicators, though these metrics depend on joint working between many stakeholders and not local planning authorities alone.⁴

Regardless of how it is defined, demonstrating improving performance is important in the context of increased market pressures, investment confidence, and demand and political pressure for increased housing provision^{5,6,7}. It is anticipated that there will be increased demand in property in Scotland's major cities in the short term, and recently announced City Deals will enable major projects whilst land also becomes available for projects across Scotland.⁸ This has the potential to stretch existing resources within the planning service thereby testing overall performance.

PROCESSING TIMES CONTINUE TO IMPROVE OVERALL DESPITE INCREASED PRESSURE ON THE SERVICE

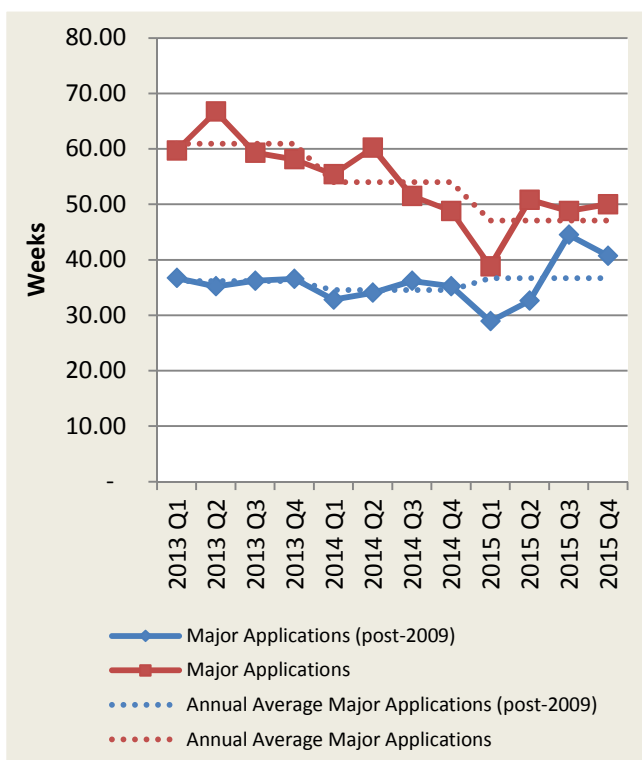


Figure 4 Average major application processing times. Annual averages are indicated by dashed lines.

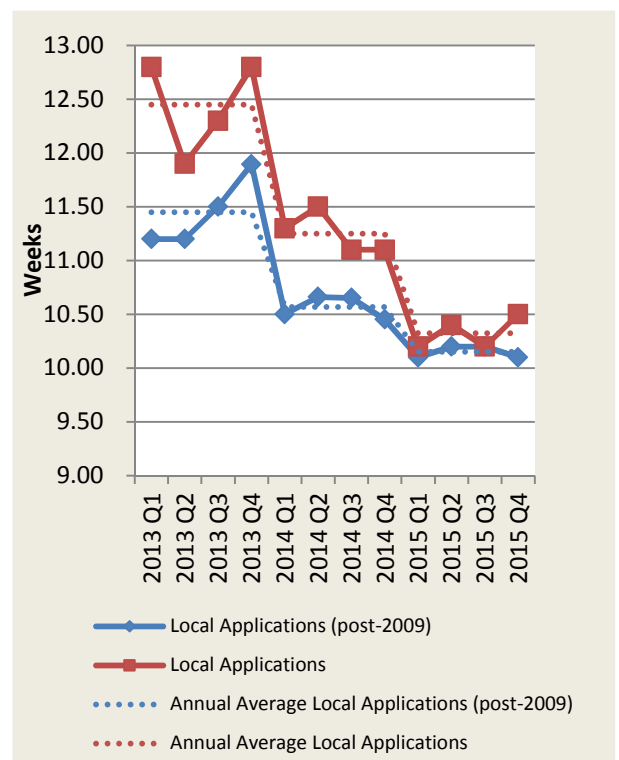


Figure 5 Average local application processing times. Annual Averages are indicated by dashed lines.

Processing times are an indication of the efficiency of the planning service and constraints on processing times are also identified as barriers to a speedy and high quality service.⁹ Yet, processing times depend on the complexity of the case, the type of application, on top of the volume of applications.¹⁰ On an authority-by-authority basis, the most recent

Planning Performance Framework (2014/2015) report suggests that, of reporting authorities:

- ↑ 64%¹¹ have shown decreases in processing times in major applications from the previous year, compared to 59% in 2013/2014;
- ↓ 70%¹² of reporting authorities decreased non-householder local application processing times from the previous year, compared to 80%¹³ in 2013/2014; and
- ↓ 59%¹⁴ decreased householder application processing times, compared to 75%¹⁵ in 2013/2014.

The picture is slightly different taken as global figures. When considered annually, there are slippages in major application processing times, but quarterly statistics show a decrease of 9% in total major application processing times (to 40.7 weeks in Q4 2014/2015) from the previous quarter (see Figure 4). There has been a decrease in local application processing times (to 10 weeks) in Q4 2014/2015, which also reflects continued improvement from the previous year (see Figure 5).

These broad improvements in processing times are also a function of the proactive measures taken by planning authorities. For example:

- **Progress has been made on legacy cases**, though fewer legacy cases have been decided in 2014/2015;^{16,17}
- ↑ Many authorities have reported **improved overall average processing times for cases with legal agreements**, which accounted for 23.6% of total major application decisions in 2014/2015;¹⁸ and
- ↑ **More processing agreements have been used** by local authorities (up 92% from 122 in 2013/2014 to 233 in 2014/2015).¹⁹ Of reporting authorities, 54% indicated an equal or increased number of processing agreements²⁰, 91% of those authorities noted they were delivered according to agreed timetable (see Figure 6).²¹

These positive developments coincide with a higher volume of time-consuming applications. Notwithstanding an average annual decrease of 4% in major planning applications in 2014/2015, this follows a 34% increase in 2013/2014 from 2012/2013 in addition to a slight increase in major applications in the most recent quarter of 2014/2015 (Figure 6, Appendix 1). The annual number of local applications has decreased slightly, though processing times have improved and, on average, 72% of local applications were decided within 2 months between 2013 and 2015.

Clearly, the relationship between 'volume' and 'processing times' is not straightforward (see Figure 7 and Appendices 2, 3). Application volume is unpredictable—more important to performance is how outcomes are managed. However, all things being equal, an increase in resource-intensive applications has the potential to strain planning departments. The increase in average annual major processing times from 2013/2014 reveals sensitivity to the complexity, volume, the category of application and other conditions (e.g., whether or not there are legal agreements attached). This contrasts continued improvement in local processing times notwithstanding steady annual application volume. Changes in local application volume of certain local application types have a fairly consistent relationship with overall change in average local processing times (see Appendix 2).

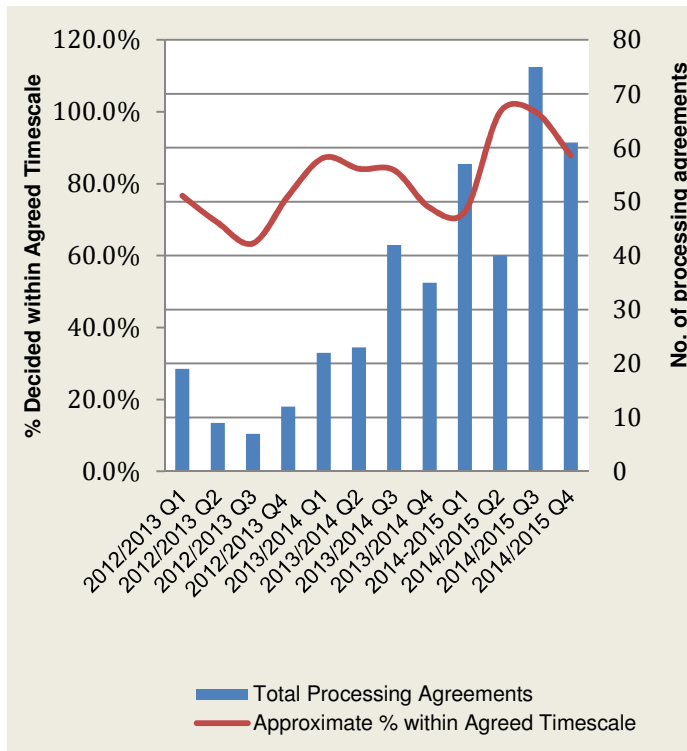


Figure 6 Processing agreements and percentage decided within agreed timescale. Source: Scottish Government Quarterly Planning Statistics, 2015.

Major application volume and processing times do not, however, show a clear statistical relationship when taken as global figures. However, Figure 5 shows that, when considered in terms of application categories, major processing times are moderately affected (statistically) by legal agreements. Whilst this does not imply causality, the observed correlations between application types (e.g., local housing processing times and volume of major applications) reveals the potential sensitivity of local and major processing times to the volume of particularly complex and time-consuming applications.

Planning authorities therefore have a difficult task anticipating and responding to increases in complex applications. Looking at two quarters with variable performance attainment (Appendix 4) show that volume of some application types of certain application types appear to

have a greater effect on overall processing times. The better performing quarter can be attributed in part to a shift in proportion of application types (see Figure 9).

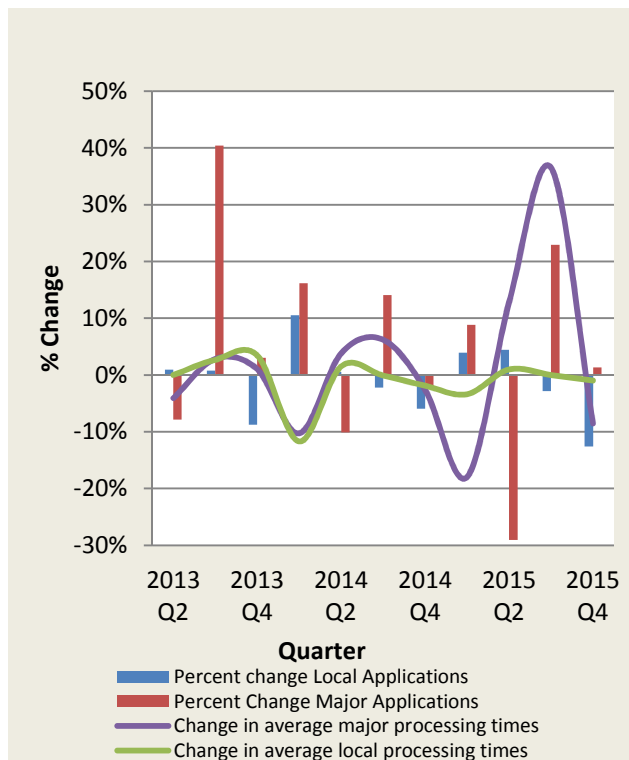


Figure 8 Per cent changes in processing times and application volume for major and local applications from previous quarter.

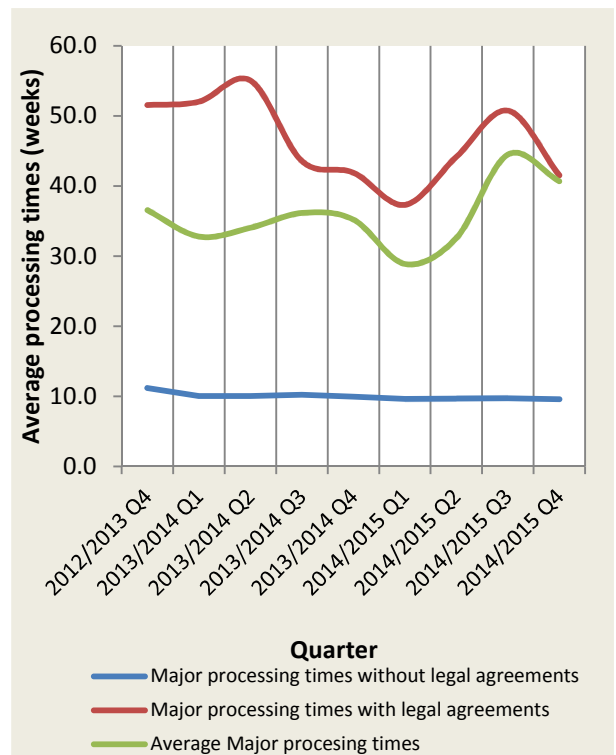


Figure 7 Comparison of major processing times (with and without legal agreements), average major processing times and major housing processing times.

Of course, 'overall' processing times are not the only indication of service performance particularly given the varying complexity of cases, application types, and, importantly, the role of other actors in the development process and other factors.²² Significantly, planning authorities have coped with deep reductions in staff and resources over the last several years (a nearly 20% reduction since 2010).²³ Budget shortfalls, management restructuring and other changes have also influenced processing times (see Section 4).



Figure 9 The relative proportion of category of application seems to affect overall processing times. See Appendix 5 for more detail.

THE NUMBER OF CASES DECIDED THROUGH APPEAL HAVE DECREASED, WHILST THE NUMBER OF ORIGINAL DECISIONS UPHELD HAS INCREASED

Overall application approval rates in Scotland remain high at 93.5% (Figure 12): planning authorities have worked towards ensuring these decisions are clearly linked to policy and that communication has been clear throughout the planning process (see Planning Performance Framework Reports). There are of course instances where decisions are appealed. A further indication of performance is the quality and robustness of planning decisions based in part on the volume of appeals and proportion of upheld decisions.²⁴

Based on recent figures, 47% of reporting authorities have indicated an equal number or increase in the number of cases brought to local review in which the original decisions were upheld, with an equal proportion indicating an increase in the number of appeals to Scottish Ministers in which the original decision was upheld.²⁵ Despite a slight increase in the volume of cases handled by DPEA in 2014/2015, it is worth noting that the number of appeal actions decreased while the number of original decisions upheld increased by 4% from 2013/2014.

Taken together, high approval rates and a trend towards a higher proportion of upheld decisions from independent bodies suggests that authorities are succeeding in establishing robust decision-making processes.

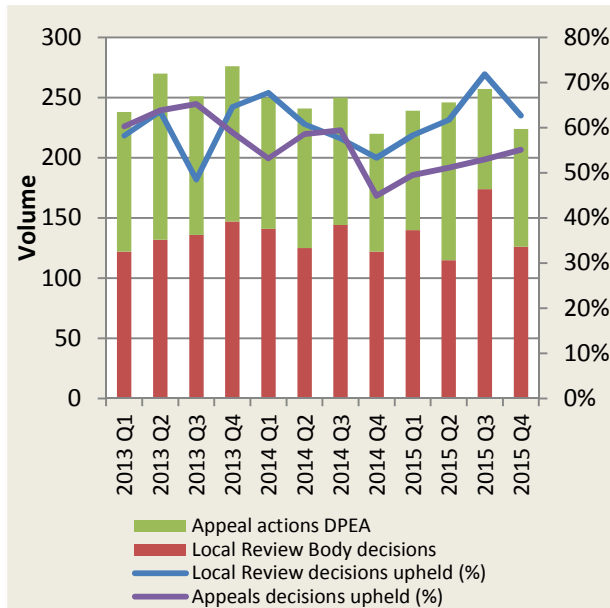


Figure 12 Total appeal actions (by local review and Scottish ministers) and per cent of those in which original decision upheld.

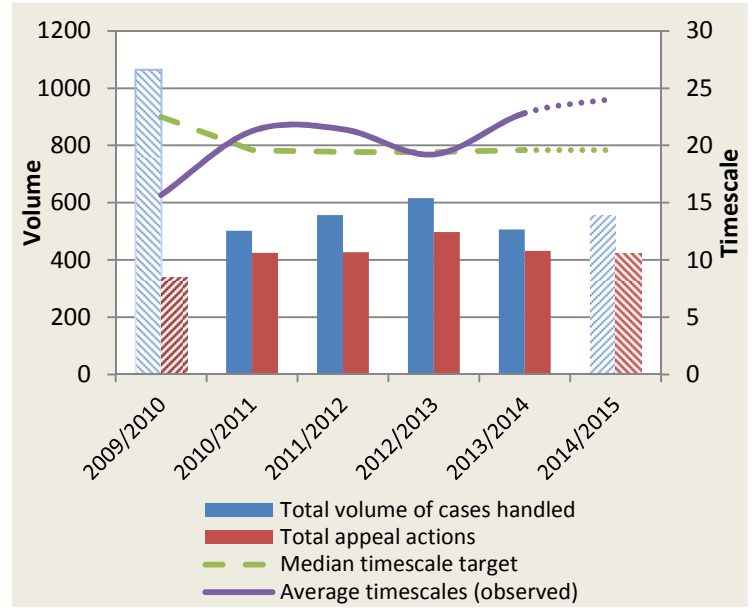


Figure 11 Volume of appeals handled by DPEA and total appeal actions. Note 2009/2010 figures include data reflecting caseloads before the creation of local review bodies. 2014/2015 data is predicted.



Figure 10 Per cent of total applications approved by quarter

4. COSTS, INVESTMENT AND RESOURCING

Scrutiny of the planning service is often couched in terms of its cost against its value. Indeed, certain planning functions need to cover costs through service fees. In this way, the 'cost' of the planning system may be conceived as:

- The gross expenditure of development management (and application handling, in particular); and
- The ability of the service to meet these costs through income from application fees.

Unfortunately, data on itemised development management costs is limited, though local

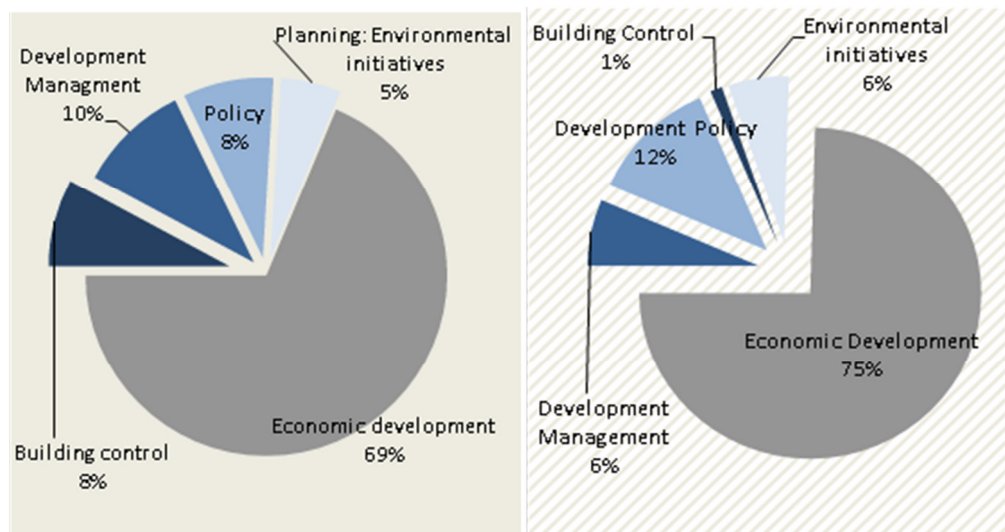


Figure 13 Distribution of Planning and Development Net Revenue Expenditure, 2013/2014 and 2015/2016 (anticipated). Source: Local Government Financial Statistics

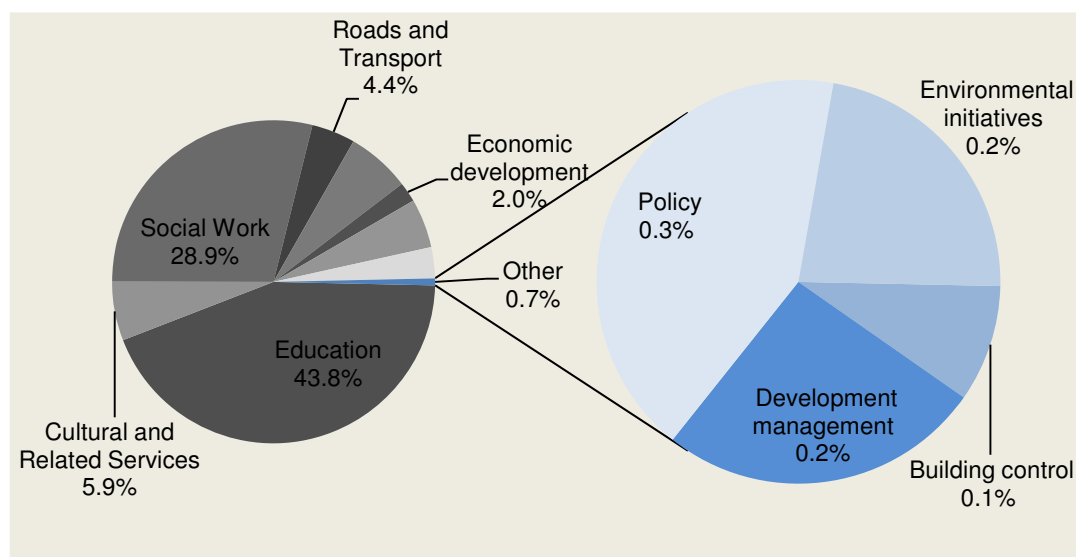


Figure 14 Planning service as per cent of total council net revenue expenditure, 2013/2014. Total NRE represented in left chart is £10.5 billion. Note that this excludes Police and Fire services. Source: Local Government Financial Statistics.

authority budgets indicate general trends in terms of net revenue expenditure and gross expenditure. (These figures do not include data from National Parks, key agencies, or SDPAs, for reasons stated in Section 2.) Also detailed below is synchronic data from Heads of Planning Scotland suggesting how costs within development management are offset by fee income.

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT IS A SIGNIFICANT AREA OF EXPENDITURE WITHIN PLANNING SERVICES. FULL-COST RECOVERY HAS NOT BEEN REALISED

Expected council expenditure in the planning service does not necessarily indicate a fair or unfair distribution of resources, but illustrates of its perceived priority compared to other services. Scrutiny of the planning service is often framed around development management functions. Observed and projected budgets for development management indicate that:

↓ It is to account for 6% of net revenue expenditure in 2015/2016 of Planning and Economic Development budgets and 25% when excluding Economic Development. This is a drop from 7%²⁶ and 26%²⁷ of total net revenue expenditure, respectively, in 2013/2014 (see Figures 13 and 14); and

↓ When expressed in cash terms, budgets are set decrease from £19 million in 2013/2014 to £17.87 million in 2014/2015, before increasing slightly to £17.98 million in 2015/2016.)

The Scottish Government advocates full cost recovery for public services with charges²⁸, though this has been difficult to achieve in planning and development management in particular.^{29,30} Despite Scottish Government policy that ‘developers should pay for the work involved in deciding planning applications’,³¹ recent figures provided by a Heads of Planning Scotland costing exercise suggest that income from application fees accounts for 26.5% of the full cost of the planning system, or 63% of processing core application costs. The gross cost of development management is £36 million per year based on handling costs alone, accounting for 45% of total service costs.³² Specifically:

- Of reporting authorities, **24% reached two-thirds cost recovery** in 2014 (compared to over 80% in 2005/2006); and
- A third of authorities **fall below 50%** full-cost recovery.

For each authority, the average net cost for the taxpayer is approximately £1.9 million. A significant portion of overall expenditure is devoted to staff costs, considered in detail below.

THE COST OF DEVELOPMENT PLANNING IS DIFFICULT TO MEASURE

Another function of the planning service is development planning, which matches the ‘long term needs’ of development with ‘short term delivery’.³³ Indeed, the Scottish Local Government Regeneration Committee noted that adequate funding and resources are essential to the success of development planning, otherwise risking ‘consequential’ impacts on key aspects of society.³⁴ However, the ‘costs’ of development planning are difficult to measure through existing methodologies and public datasets.

Current data available to RTPi Scotland suggests that:

As of 2013/2014, development 'policy' constituted 11% of total net revenue expenditure (or 8% of gross expenditure) within council Development and Planning services (i.e., including Economic Development), down from 13% in 2012/2013. **Policy is expected to increase to over 12% of net revenue expenditure in 2015/2016** (see Figure 13);

Policy accounted for 42% of net revenue expenditure and 26% of gross expenditure (i.e., excluding Economic Development) in 2013/2014, but will constitute 48% of net revenue expenditure and 28% of gross expenditure³⁵ in 2016; and

It is estimated that net revenue expenditure for policy will increase to £36 million in 2014/2015 before decreasing to £33.8 million in 2015/2016.³⁶ This is a decrease from £37 million in 2012/2013.

Development planning budgets for National Park and for Strategic Development Planning Authorities (SDPAs) authorities are not reported as rigorously. Within National Parks, anecdotal evidence suggests that staff costs for development planning since 2012 have ranged between £55,000 and £220,000, which accounted for approximately 40% of their budgets, on average. For SDPAs, budgets since 2013 have ranged between £100,000 and nearly £600,000, with contributions negotiated with constituent local authorities.

Costs within development planning functions in local authorities are therefore difficult to analyse. Since the cost of development planning depends on the progress of the Local Development Plan (accounting for changes in expected net revenue expenditure in 2015/16), associated costs vary considerably, depending on what is included, the structure and size of the development plan team and the length of examination. Indeed, development Plan Examinations average at roughly £69,000³⁷ but depend on the amount of evidence submitted at the time of Examination.^{38,39}

Furthermore, the costs of implementing projects identified in Development Plan Action Programmes—like new infrastructure, housing and public facilities—depend on how many projects are identified and how developer contributions are defined (see Figure 20). For example, the City of Edinburgh Council identify infrastructure and education projects over the course of the Local Development Plan period as valued at £200 million at the very least with many costs met through developer contributions.⁴⁰ Planning authorities have made progress in identifying what is expected of developers in terms of contributions, though work is still required to simplify processes for concluding planning/legal agreements.⁴¹

ADEQUATE RESOURCING IS CENTRAL TO A WELL-PERFORMING PLANNING SERVICE

To plan properly requires the political will 'coupled with the necessary resources' to produce a 'highly successful, planning-led intervention'.⁴² Investment of public money into the planning system needs to continue to ensure high quality and impactful spatial interventions. Indeed, contrasting European authorities, Scottish local authorities can lack the resources and skills necessary for delivery, particularly regarding infrastructure provision and masterplanning.⁴³ This is constrained by the fact that:

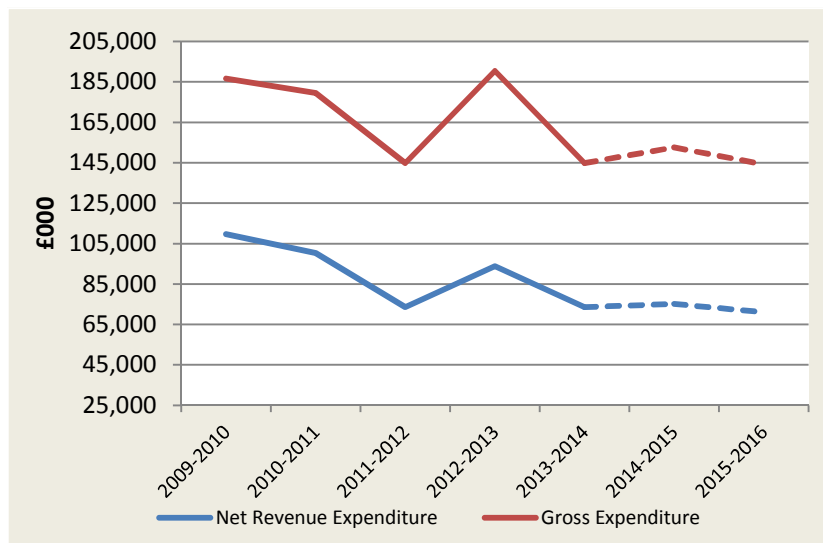
↓ Total gross expenditure on planning services will decrease by over £40 million between 2009 and 2016, and £30 million in net revenue expenditure in the same period (Figure 15);

↓ It is expected that **planning will constitute only 0.63% of total local authority net revenue expenditure in 2015/2016**, dropping from 0.7% in 2013/2014, or approximately £3 million;

↓ Local authority budgets and expected cuts to the Scottish Government's block grant to £25.9 billion in real terms in 2018/2019—down 10% from 2015/2016, or a 19.4% drop in value from 2009/2010 (Figure 16)⁴⁴—will also be compounded by limited scope to increase income;⁴⁵ and

↓ Planning and development services will constitute 2.4% of total council net revenue expenditure in 2015/2016 (i.e., including Economic Development), compared to 2.7% in 2013/2014. Planning functions will make up only a quarter of this 2.7%, or approximately £70 million out of £270 million across all authorities.

Budgetary cuts will continue to strain resources within planning and public services generally, though it is difficult to measure the real effects of changing levels of resources and staffing on performance. Despite a slight increase in local authority budgets from 2013/2014, many local authorities are experiencing funding gaps which, in some cases, will be as high as nearly £80 million by 2017/2018. In addition, smaller services (including Planning and Economic Development) have experienced a greater decrease since



2011 (down 9%, to £400 million in 2014) compared to larger services, such as education and social care. Recent figures suggest that among education, cultural services, environmental services, social work and transport, planning and development have suffered the greatest decrease.⁴⁶

Figure 15 Planning Net Revenue Expenditure and Gross Expenditure among local authorities by year (Note: this excludes Economic Development).

Furthermore, it is expected that, between 2010/2011 and 2018/2019, the per cent spend on public services will have decreased by 23.5% with total public spending decreasing by 3.9%.⁴⁷ This is reflected in the fact that planning services experienced £352 million in voluntary severance from 2010 to 2014. Despite this reduction, Audit Scotland note that many local authorities still reported funding gaps in 2014.⁴⁸

Planning authorities are therefore pressed to improve service delivery amid uncertain budgetary and resourcing conditions, without much scope to increase income. The sensitivity of planning budgets and their discretionary status within local authorities echoes concerns from CIPFA that, since public service budgets (besides education) are not ring-

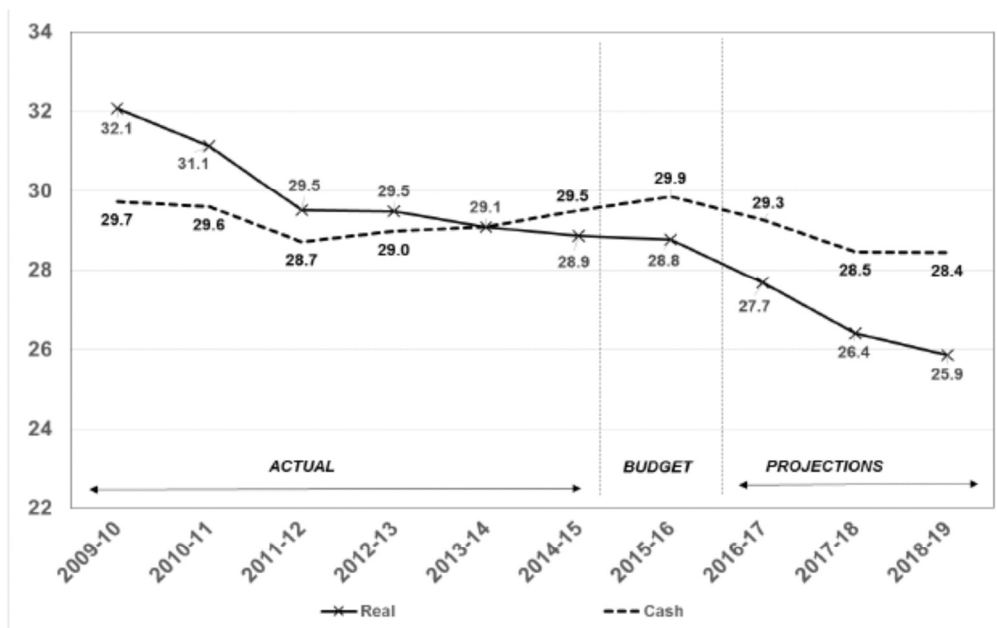


Figure 16 Observed and projected block grant budgets (Source: <http://fiscalaffairsscotland.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Long-term-Scottish-budget-projections.pdf>)

fenced by the Scottish Government, the ability local authority financing to be ‘outcome focused’ is undermined.⁴⁹

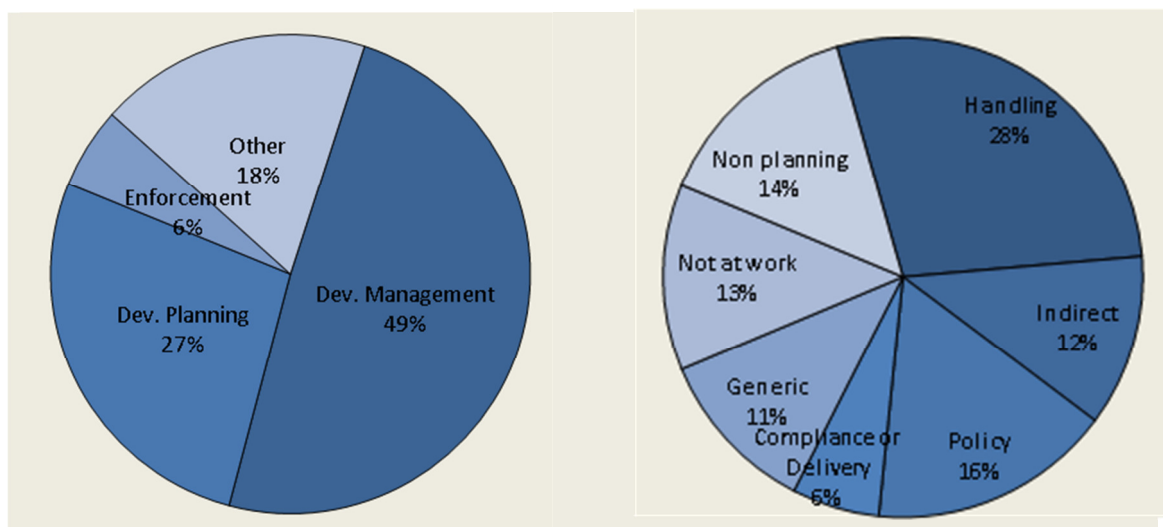
THE PLANNING SERVICE HAS BEEN ADAPTING WITH A REDUCED WORKFORCE. STAFF COSTS CONSTITUTE THE MAJORITY OF EXPENDITURE

As is the case with public bodies generally, the majority of costs within local authority planning budgets are devoted to staff costs.⁵⁰ However, despite remaining a large proportion of the planning budget, there is an indication that this will continue to decrease, negatively affecting the ability of planning departments to cope with increased development pressure. Evidence shows that:

- From 2011 to 2014, planning staff costs have averaged between £500,000 and £800,000 per authority. However, differences in planning department sizes and structures make figures difficult to compare, especially over time;
- In 2012/2013, planning authority staff budgets ranged between £143,000 and £5.6 million.⁵¹ Anecdotal evidence suggests that staff costs for planning account for approximately 12% of total planning and development budgets (i.e., including Economic Development), while 60% of this is devoted to development management;⁵² and
- Planning department workloads have increased and authorities have had to compromise on crucial planning functions (one authority halved its department in 2013/2014⁵³). Development Management departments continue to make up the majority of roles in planning departments (see Figure 17).

There is similar disinvestment when considering public sector employment more generally. Public sector employment has decreased by 21% between 2009 and 2015, though has increased by 1% from 2013/2014 (to 248,300, by headcount).⁵⁴ This is a decrease of an estimated 2.6 % per year (on average)⁵⁵ whilst it is estimated that the number of total planning staff has dropped by nearly 20% since 2010.⁵⁶

There is no clear statistical relation between staff levels and performance, but it is likely that performance will be affected by increased service use. As of 2013/2014, 28% of full-time equivalent (FTE) roles were devoted to handling applications, with an additional 12% dealing indirectly with planning applications (see Figure 18). Based on 2014/2015 figures, there were approximately 650 FTE posts within development management (excluding vacancies) across Scotland (out of approximately 1280 FTE in development management, planning, enforcement and other/cross services). In 2013/2014, the average case load was 59 cases per post, per year.⁵⁷ Development management comprises the large majority of positions in planning authorities (49%), which compares to 47% of staff in 2010, when nearly 30% of staff worked in 'cross service' or other functions.



However, reductions in staff levels and reduced graduate numbers (see Appendix 6) have not been detrimental to planning authorities' abilities to meet performance targets, thanks

Figure 17 Total staffing by department, 2014/2015. (PPF Reports, 2015). This is an approximated figure.

Figure 18 Distribution of FTE in planning departments in 2014 (Heads of Planning Scotland, 2014)

to developing innovative ways of working and staff restructuring. Yet, it is acknowledged that public services which have managed to cope until now will find this more difficult with further resource reductions.⁵⁸ Research by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) argued that the progress in collaboration and communication promoted in Scotland's planning modernisation programme will be threatened by an upturn in the economy and increase in planning applications, thereby stretching staff and resources.⁵⁹ More needs to be done to ensure this 'culture change' is sustained and adequately measured.

5. IMPACT AND VALUE

When considering the performance of the planning system, there is a tendency to audit the planning system in terms of internal performance targets. Indeed, measuring the impact and value of planning is difficult and is arguably underdeveloped. However, planning can maximise value by providing certainty, identifying sites for housing and key infrastructure, and increasing property values. The planning service collaborates with communities, businesses and public organisations in order to bring about high quality and inclusive spatial interventions. However, there is a perception that the planning service is too complex, difficult to access and not delivering what communities need.⁶⁰ As the Christie Commission Report noted, public services in Scotland are threatened by an ethos of 'professional dominance' which makes innovation difficult and services unresponsive to the needs of communities.⁶¹ Real reform and value can only be delivered if innovation is incentivised and encouraged within planning services.⁶²

PLANNING HAS A POSITIVE IMPACT ON SCOTLAND, BUT THIS MUST BE CONSIDERED HOLISTICALLY

The Scottish Government recognises that '[p]lanning is broad in scope and cross cutting in nature and therefore contributes to the achievement of all of the national outcomes.'

Planning therefore helps achieve key outcomes in areas including: 7

- Connectivity;
- Equality;
- Sustainability;
- Well-being; and
- Environmental quality.⁶³

However, it is difficult to assess planning 'impacts' as easily as internal performance targets since they are not holistically or comparatively measured. Work has been undertaken for RTP1 to clarify and measure the impact of spatial planning—from employment, plan coverage, housing, and more—as an indication of spatial planning's ability to 'manage and resolve' conflicts and 'promoting creative solutions to achieve the vision of sustainable development' (see Figure 26).⁶⁴ These indicators should improve and continue to capture

more aspects of planning's perceived value, particularly in terms of achieving national outcomes.

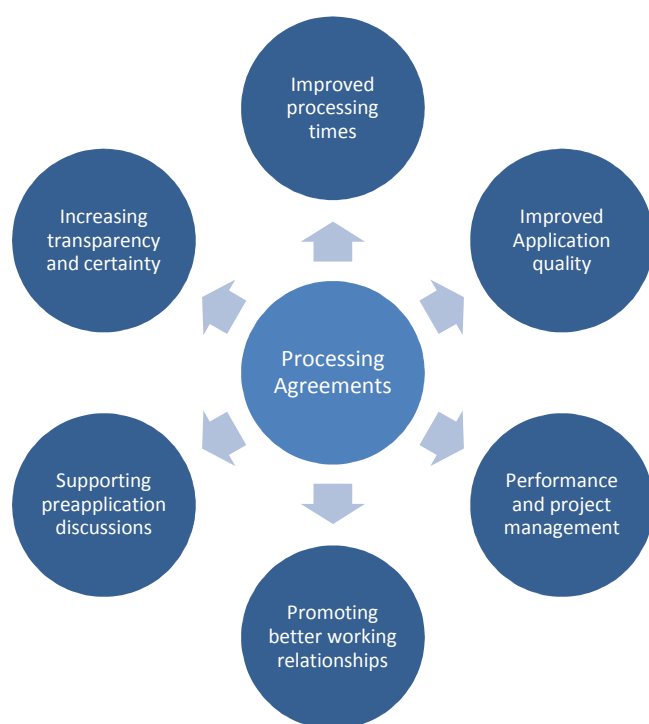


Figure 19 A report by the Scottish Government (2015) identified several benefits associated with using processing agreements.

More generally, it is recognised that planning can add value economically, environmentally and socially at varying geographical and organisational scales.⁶⁵ From the perspective of development, good governance and good practice in planning provide 'the most significant benefit in terms of sound financial maximisation and design quality of the finished development project.'⁶⁶ This value is partly in managing outcomes. Planning can help foster 'long-term symbiotic collaborative-competitive innovations' to manage the tension between various stakeholders, even though it may be more resource-intensive.⁶⁷ Public sector planning can also play an enabling role. Among other things, it is observed that the public sector has become more central in enabling and stimulating the

development finance necessary to see projects through.⁶⁸

The Scottish planning service also adds value by providing certainty to actors and stakeholders, partly achieved through the application process. In addition to a larger number of authorities reporting continued and increased pre-application discussions,⁶⁹ authorities have aimed to increase the use of processing agreements. Processing agreements are considered to have positive effects on processes and outcomes, including increasing transparency, improving processing times and application quality, and promoting project

management and better working relationships (see Figure 19).⁷⁰ The total number of processing agreements per quarter has increased over 90% to 233 in 2015 from 192 in 2014, which increases certainty for applicants. (Indeed, Appendix 2 shows a high coincidence between processing times for various application categories and processing agreement volume.)

There have also been debates about how to fund identified spatial interventions and how to ensure that new development contributes to communities affected by development. Planning service can raise land values and can potentially capture the raised value^{71, 72} and is also capable of levying contributions from developers through a variety of negotiated agreements.⁷³ This is particularly important in the delivery of housing, infrastructure and other public goods which are often funded through policy levers defined by planning authorities (see Figure 20).⁷⁴ As noted, current performance frameworks are aiding in developing robust indicators to demonstrate this value and the relationship of spatial interventions to development plan priorities and national outcomes.

6. CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT IN THE PLANNING SERVICE

Planning authorities are committed to continuous improvement in order to achieve a well-functioning and responsive service. Increasingly, changes to planning resourcing are tied to the system's ability to demonstrate continued performance improvements.⁷⁵ Heads of Planning Scotland administer annual planning performance reports of all planning authorities in Scotland. Work on benchmarking for planning (and development management, in particular) is ongoing, reflecting current practice of other public services (reported by SOLACE and Improvement Service). In this context, the planning service is continually measured against benchmark targets whilst identifying opportunities for improvement within individual authorities.

PLANNING HAS BEEN LABELLED AS TOO COMPLEX, BUT AUTHORITIES CONTINUE TO IMPROVE PROCESSES AND OUTCOMES

A central part of modernisation is improving communication within and perceptions of the planning service, particularly through streamlining processes, improving transparency and reducing complexity. Modernisation has therefore aimed to make the service more user-centred. A survey conducted by Ipsos Mori and Audit Scotland in 2011 indicated that:

- 55% of over 1,000 respondents from the general public felt that the planning process was 'too complicated' while only 52% said they knew what to do if they needed to submit a planning application;⁷⁶
- Of those who recently submitted planning applications and received a decision, 90% of agents understood the reasons for the decision, compared to 83% of householders, 78% of developers and 77% of businesses; and
- Despite a slight majority feeling the system was too complex, of those who looked for information on making planning applications since 2009, 78% of householders, 90% of agents,⁷⁷ 77% of businesses and 89% of developers⁷⁸ thought it was fairly or very easy to find the necessary information or guidance. Most also received the most support prior to submitting their applications.

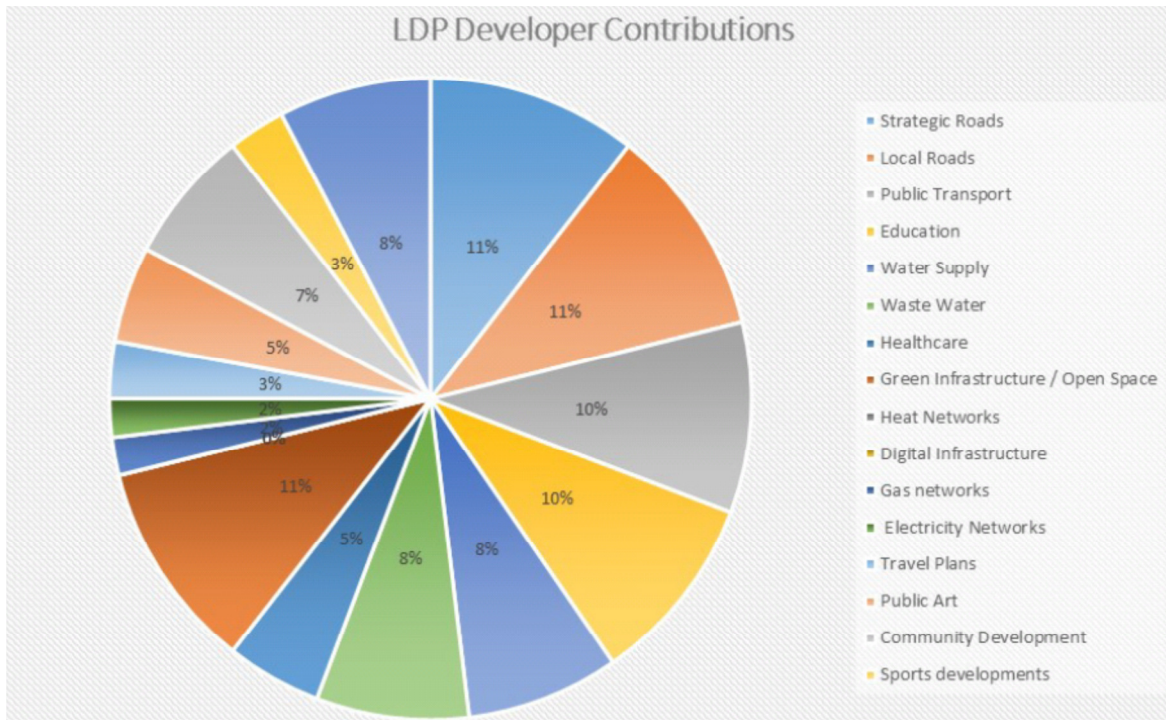


Figure 20 Distribution of emphases in developer contributions in adopted Local Development Plans, from the Scottish Government's 'Planning for Infrastructure' report (Ryden, 2015).

However, the report also suggested that changes to the planning system since 2009 have not been reflected in user's perceptions of the service's transparency and effectiveness. For instance:

- While 71% of agents, 53% of businesses and 89% of developers agreed that there was more information available about planning application processes, only 46% of agents, 47% of businesses and 47% of developers thought there was some or a lot of progress in improving transparency;⁷⁹ and
- Even fewer felt that some or a lot of progress has been made in achieving an 'efficient and effective' system.⁸⁰

The survey suggested that, in practice, public perception of the planning system derives from limited contact with the service. While application processes might be understandable, there was an issue with the perception of improvement and transparency of decision-making processes, communication and effectiveness of the service. Scottish Planning Policy notes that planning operates in the long-term public interest though most peoples' interaction with the planning system begins and ends at making an application.⁸¹ Indeed, this reveals the necessary priority given to clearly articulating processes and outcomes to all stakeholders whilst also underpinned by a 'culture of continuous improvement'.⁸²

The national headline indicators since developed by Heads of Planning Scotland to measure and promote a successful planning service have focussed on areas of improvement and have indeed demonstrated positive trends within the planning system in pursuing continuous improvement. In addition to internal performance, these also focus on defining a 'high-quality' planning service, through assessing local authorities':

- Demonstrating and 'open for business approach';
- Facilitating 'high quality developments' on the ground;

- Providing certainty;
- Improved communications, engagement and customer service;
- Promoting efficient and effective decision making
- Developing effective management structures;
- Ensuring a culture of continuous improvements; and
- Supporting sound financial management and local governance.

These indicators have helped create a constructive benchmarking framework by which local planning authorities can improve their services while maintaining a culture of transparency and accessibility.

PLANNING AUTHORITIES HAVE CONSISTENTLY REPORTED AND HAVE IMPROVED ON MANY AREAS OF THEIR SERVICE IN RECENT YEARS.

Service improvements have also been undertaken within each local authority and have demonstrated progress in achieving targets.⁸³ Planning authorities continue to report on service improvements annually through Planning Performance Framework Reports. Based on most recent data, this year has seen an increase in the number of identified and

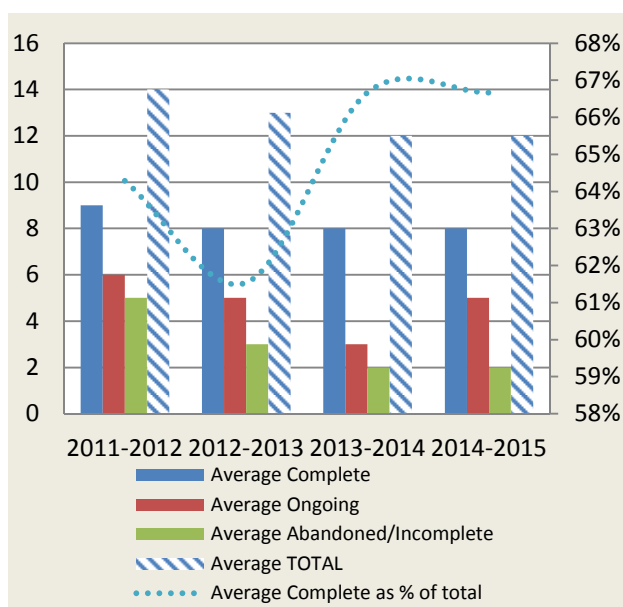


Figure 21 Average service improvements (2011-2015) by year and status. Note that some discretion was used to determine the status of service improvements where clear status was not stated.



Figure 22 Distribution of service improvements in progress or completed by category (2014/2015 PPF)

completed or ongoing service improvements (see Figure 21, 22) which are wide-ranging in nature (from development plan action programme actions to customer service programmes). The most recent Planning Performance Framework (2014/2015) suggests that authorities complete, on average, 67% of their total proposed service improvements (which average around 12 per authority), reflecting an ethos of improvement and realistic and manageable goal-setting. Ongoing and completed actions focussed particularly on:

- Improving internal processes and development management procedures;
- Implementing development plan action programmes, development briefs;
- Development management, guidance and conditions;
- Emphasising pursuing improved customer experience;
- Establishing best practice; and

- Formalising clear stakeholder engagement (see Figure 21).

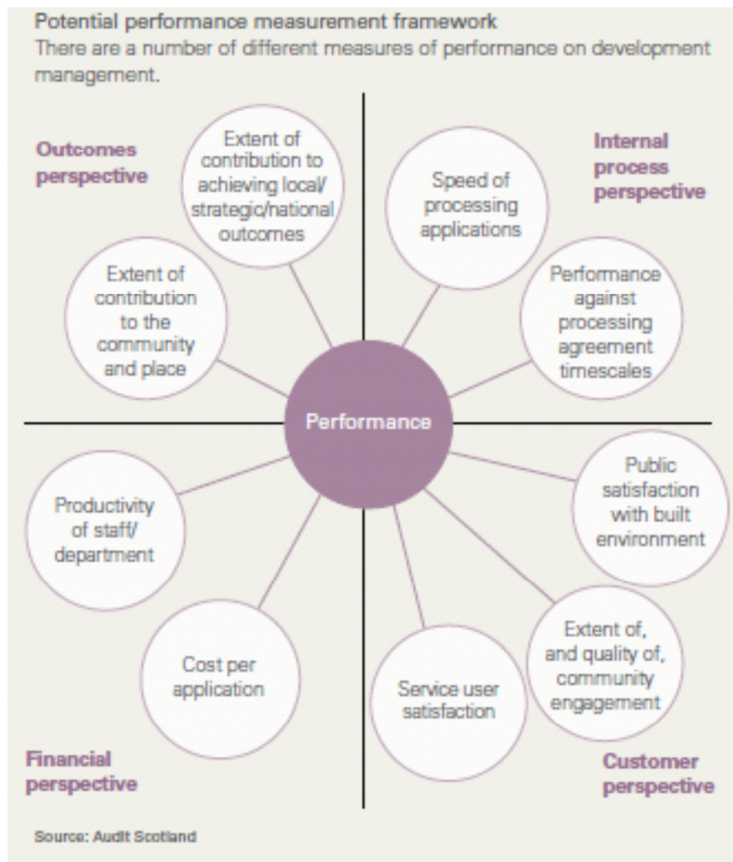


Figure 23 Potential performance measurement framework (Audit Scotland, 2014).

These actions have led to broad improvements throughout the planning service. For example, Planning Performance Frameworks indicate an improvement in setting 'clear and proportionate' expectations for developer contributions. Whilst improvement is desired in regard to decision timescales for applications with legal agreements, planning authorities continue to tackle 'legacy cases' which have an adverse effect on overall processing times (Section 2). As noted, there has been an increase use of processing agreements (79%) and pre-application discussions for major developments.

However, Audit Scotland⁸⁴ and RICS⁸⁵ argued that performance measurements need to evolve beyond managerial auditing processes which—whilst the most controversial—are the most manageable aspects of the

service. The quadrants in Figure 23 illustrate how certain qualitative aspects of planning performance may be analysed. Planning Performance Frameworks aim to measure qualitative and quantitative aspects of the planning performance but comparable, holistic and accessible metrics about how planning fulfils 'outcomes' must be considered. This reflects criticisms⁸⁶ that current performance measurements do not provide particularly useful or insightful information into the multidimensional nature of planning service.⁸⁷ Research undertaken for the RTP1 in 2008 similarly identified additional indicator 'bundles' where data is gathered from a variety of sources to measure the complementary relationships of areas such as housing, environmental quality, transport, employment, and more (see Figure 26). Whilst such relationships cannot be taken at face value, this importantly demonstrates an aim to separate planning processes (an efficiency and economy relationship), planning effects (outcomes and impacts), and the relationship in-between (viz., relationships of effect).⁸⁸

SCOTLAND'S PLANNING SYSTEM IS 'PLAN LED'—DEVELOPMENT PLANS ARE UP-TO-DATE AND ON TRACK

Additionally, there have been clear efforts to link policy and planning authority decision making in line with the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act (2006) in development planning. Reform included the creation of Local Development Plans (LDP) that replaced cumbersome and 'out-of-date' local plans. It also established the National Planning Framework—now on its third iteration—which clearly states the role of spatial planning in achieving the Scottish Government's national outcomes. All planning authorities are expected to implement at

least one Local Development Plan. In April 2004, there were 131 local plans. 70% were over 5 years old, and 20% were over 15 years old. Currently:

- Over 80% of Local Development Plans are less than 5 years old, meeting the benchmark target set by the Scottish Government and Heads of Planning Scotland (see Figures 24 & 25);
- The average local plan 3.5 years old, whilst the average LDP is 2.5 years old (see Appendix 4). Most of Scotland's planning authorities are on-track for the adoption of the next plan;⁸⁹ and
- The average Strategic Development Plan is 1.9 years old. All Strategic Development Plans have met their timescales, and three have begun work on the next SDP.⁹⁰ These plans cover 76.3% of Scotland's population (around 4,054,000 people).

Local and strategic planning authorities have therefore made progress in linking policy and decisions around plans, while also providing supplementary guidance on complex planning issues.

Figure 24 (Left) Age of 'active' development plans (including SDPs, Mineral Plans, LPs and LDPs).

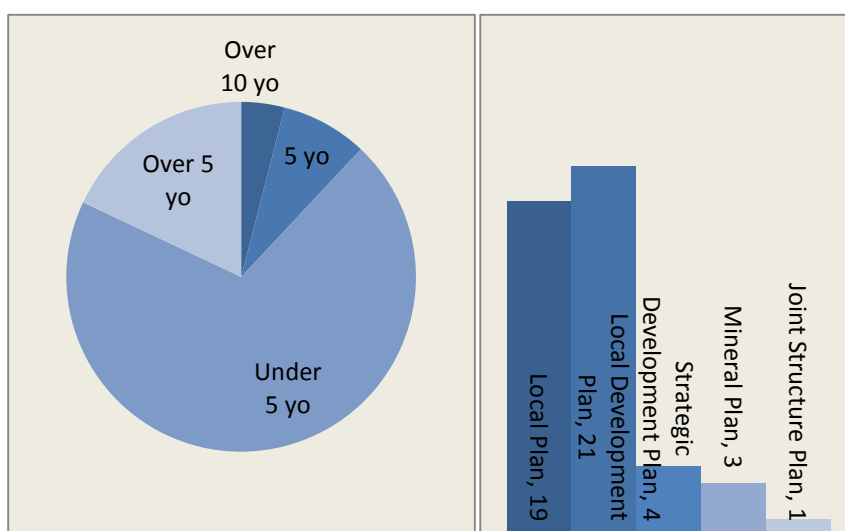


Figure 19 (Right) Distribution of plan by category and number.

DIGITAL SOLUTIONS CAN HELP IMPROVE PROCESSES AND OUTCOMES

The Christie Commission Report noted that Scotland's public services must improve their transparency and accountability to remain effective and properly user-centred. Within the planning service, strides have been made in this regard through the implementation of E-Planning, recognised as key in improving accessibility and decision-making.⁹¹ Exceeding Scottish Government's expectations, 63.5% of applications (27,000 of 42,000) are now processed through E-Planning (processing 2,250 applications per month), creating a more interactive, simplified and cost-effective system. This is complimented by the availability of online Local Development Plans, planning advice and information, and e-consultations. E-Planning is expected to save applicants £45 million over the first ten years of its implementation whilst saving local authorities over £15 million in the same period.⁹²

Yet, E-Planning only goes so far in making the planning service more transparent and accessible. The amount of data available to all stakeholders at each stage of the planning process is limited, constraining opportunities for engagement and improvement.⁹³ There is scope to encourage the use of open data systems to link cross-boundary planning information, improving strategic decision-making, community involvement and joint working.⁹⁴ Among other things, the use of nationally consistent spatial data can help avoid unnecessary data collection, but can also help:

- Develop consistent data standards;
- Promote the collection and publication of linked data sources; and
- Create planning data visualisations that can help the public understand and engage with planning information.

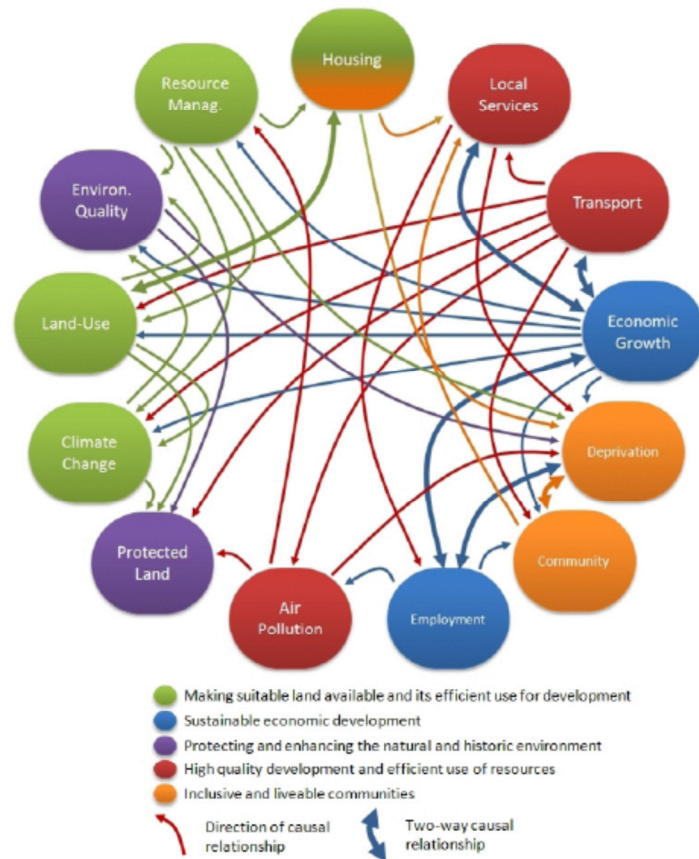


Figure 20 Indicator relationships in spatial planning. Note: this work focussed particularly on English local authorities Source: RTPI, et al., 2008.

Given the multi-faceted nature of spatial planning, the ‘outcome’ or ‘impact’ indicator bundles could be derived from a number of open or shared datasets. Indeed, these solutions are recognised by the Scottish Government as key to delivering public services and more generally to improve decision making and reduce waste.⁹⁵ There are a number of exemplars within the United Kingdom and internationally where planning services have improved processes and outcomes through the use of open data.

Open data, shared data and shared services can help improve the application and development processes by making data easier to find, interpret and analyse.⁹⁶ Within development management, there are promising examples in local authorities and shared services which emphasise a commitment to improved services and joint working. This has demonstrated the capacity to identify priority action areas, identifying barriers to delivery, and how to overcome them. For example, The West of Scotland Archaeological Service, which is shared between eleven local planning authorities, created an integrated database from local authorities, Historic Scotland and the National Library of Scotland to provide up-to-date and speedy information about ‘potentially problematic casework’. This has allowed authorities to ‘adapt’ and ‘react’ in partnership and utilising shared technology and resources.⁹⁷ These systems should continue to be implemented to develop cross-referential relationships between spatial data and current key performance or national headline indicators and national outcomes.

7. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

Whilst it has been possible to synthesise a picture of the planning service's performance, a more holistic understanding of what a 'successful' planning system looks like needs to be developed. Furthermore, strategies and resources supporting this needs to be considered more holistically. Current data on resourcing and performance is relatively disparate, and the relationship has to be better understood before decisions are made which may compromise the ability of local authorities to plan effectively for change. In addition, linking outcomes/impacts and output performance measurements more rigorously may create a more robust basis for considering future investment. This is especially important given that emphases on output performance continue to be the main method of analysing the planning system's effectiveness and since data suggests that planning services are coping but are in a fragile position.

Current metrics show that the planning service is adapting to constrained resources. Whilst observed and future local government budgets are 'evening out' in the very short term, these are at great risk with further cuts to central government budgets. Planning approvals remain high, progress is being made with long-standing cases, and, annually, average processing times continue to fall whilst application volume has remained steady over the past few years. However, continued stress on the system will mean that further internal service improvements might not dramatically change performance. For example, a rise in major applications—in demanding more resources from planning authorities—can affect the ability of development management teams to continue to effectively reduce decision timescales for local applications. This has been the experience of many local authorities to date.

Within these constraints, there are opportunities for improvement and innovation. Current monitoring of the service indicates broad improvement. New technologies and ways of working have been pursued, but there are opportunities to expand their use. First of all, they can be used to better understand the impact of planning in addition to existing metrics. Furthermore, the necessity of the planning service to demonstrate improved performance to secure resourcing demands a more robust understanding and demonstration of input, output and outcome/impact relationships across a broad set of indicators. Secondly, new technologies and open data can help make access to spatial planning data and participation in planning processes easier and more straightforward. It can aid collaboration and innovation whilst also increasing a sense of ownership amongst users.

Based on this, future Scottish Governments must continue to invest in the planning service, and continue to 'de-clutter' the service's procedures and replace the planning penalty clause for planning authorities with a system of incentivisation.

REFERENCES

- ¹ Vigar Geoff, et al., 'Success and Innovation in Planning'. RTPI Research Report No.8., London: RTPI, 2014
- ² Carmona, Matthew, and Louie Sieh. 'Performance Measurement in Planning—Towards a Holistic View. *Environment and Planning: Government and Policy* 26.2 (2008): 428-454.; Houghton, Michael. 'Performance Indicators In Town Planning: Much Ado About Nothing?'. *Local Government Studies* 23.2 (1997): 1-13.
- ³ See <http://learntech.uwe.ac.uk/da/Default.aspx?pageid=1442> for more information on this statistical tool.
- ⁴ Royal Town Planning Institute, 'Measuring Outcomes in Spatial Planning'. London: RTPI Research, 2008
- ⁵ Savills Research UK Residential. *Scotland's Prime Residential Property Market*. Edinburgh: Savills, 2015. Web. 7 Sept. 2015. Spotlight. <http://pdf.euro.savills.co.uk/residential---other/spotlight-scotland-prime-residential---spring-2015.pdf>
- ⁶ Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, *Shortage of Instructions In Scottish Buyer And Rental Markets Fuel Higher Prices*. 2015. Web. 7 Sept. 2015.<http://www.rics.org/uk/news/news-insight/press-releases/shortage-of-instructions-in-scottish-buyer-and-rental-markets-fuel-higher-prices/>
- ⁷ Savills Research UK Residential, *Scotland's residential market will outperform the rest of the UK this year*. Edinburgh: Savills, 2015. Web. 7 Sept. 2015.http://www.savills.co.uk/_news/article/72418/186529-0/2/2015/scotland-s-residential-market-will-outperform-the-rest-of-uk-this-year--according-to-new-research-from-savills
- ⁸ GVA Bilfinger, *Scotland Prospectus 2015*, Edinburgh: GVA Bilfinger, 2015. Web. 6 August 2015. www.gva.co.uk/research/scotland-prospectus-jan-2015/
- ⁹ Town and Country Planning Association, *Planning Performance Contributions*, TCPA Briefing Paper 44, 2014, p.3 <http://www.tcpa.org.uk/data/files/resources/1207/TB44-Planning-PerformanceContributions.pdf>
- ¹⁰ Ove Arup & Partners, Phil Allmendinger, Geoff Peart Consulting and Anderson Strathern WS, *Resources for Planning*, Edinburgh: Scottish Executive, 2005.
- ¹¹ Of 28 reporting authorities.
- ¹² Of 33 reporting authorities.
- ¹³ Of 30 reporting authorities.
- ¹⁴ Of 32 reporting authorities.
- ¹⁵ Of 32 reporting authorities.
- ¹⁶ Major business/industry applications have slipped slightly, but since average Figures are based on a small number of applications, the most recent increase in decision time is attributed to a couple of applications that had a decision time of over two years.
- ¹⁷ Scottish Government, *Quarterly Planning Statistics (Q3)*, Edinburgh: Scottish Government, 2015 <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0047/00474380.pdf>
- ¹⁸ 67% of 27 reporting authorities.
- ¹⁹ Scottish Government, *op. cit.*, 2015.
- ²⁰ Based on 28 reporting authorities.
- ²¹ Note that these figures are taken annually.
- ²² Adams, David and Craig Watkins, 'The Value of Planning'. Royal Town Planning Institute Research Report No. 8., Edinburgh: RTPI, 2014, pp. 16-20.
- ²³ There is not sufficient longitudinal data to demonstrate a correlation between staff levels and performance.
- ²⁴ RTPI Scotland's calculations show that the relationship between approval rates and volume of appeals is defined by a (negative) correlation coefficient of -.7, which strongly suggests that as one variable increased, the other decreased.
- ²⁵ Scottish Government, *Planning Performance Framework Annual Report*. Edinburgh: Scottish Government, 2014.
- ²⁶ Scottish Government, *Scottish Local Authority Financial Statistics*, 2015. Edinburgh: Scottish Government, 2015. <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Local-Government-Finance/PubScottishLGFStats>
- ²⁷ Based on available Figures provided in planning authorities' Planning Performance Framework reports.
- ²⁸ [http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Government/Finance/spfm/feescharges#Financial Objectives](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Government/Finance/spfm/feescharges#Financial%20Objectives)
- ²⁹ Arup et al, *op. cit.*, noted that the overall cost for statutory development plan preparation at the time was estimated at £10m whereas development management work was estimated at £29.4m, out of a total £98m planning budget, with only 2% of applications paying the maximum planning fee. It was estimated that income would need to increase by over 30% to meet full-cost recovery.
- ³⁰ The maximum fee for most applications is £20,055, compared to England and Wales where the maximum is £250,000 and in Northern Ireland, £265,806.
- ³¹ Scottish Government, *Consultation on Fee Changes*, Edinburgh: Scottish Government, 2010. <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/Doc/317790/0101200.pdf>
- ³² Includes 'handling applications, planning apps indirect, planning policy, and compliance & delivery'. Heads of Planning Scotland, 2015.
- ³³ <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0048/00483680.pdf>
- ³⁴ http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_LocalGovernmentandRegenerationCommittee/Reports/IgR-14-03w.pdf
- ³⁵ This is calculated based on expected overall gross expenditure, and based on a factor of 1.21% of projected NRE. This factor is based on observed proportion of NRE to GE in recent years.
- ³⁶ Based on total planning and development budgets included in 2015 Projected Outturn and Budget Expenditure <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2015/05/6806>. Adjusted to account for proportion spend per planning function.
- ³⁷ According to the Scottish Government, there is a range of £10,000 and £200,000.
- ³⁸ Audit Scotland, *Modernising the Planning System*, Edinburgh: Audit Scotland, 2011.
- ³⁹ Research by Arup et al (2005) on resourcing the planning system found that plan preparation was estimated at £10.4 million across authorities. However, this pre-dates the creation of LDPs and SDPs which makes comparison difficult.
- ⁴⁰ City of Edinburgh Council Planning Committee, Planning Committee Meeting 14 May 2015, Edinburgh: City of Edinburgh Council, 2015. http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/3667/planning_committee
- ⁴¹ Heads of Planning Scotland, *Planning Performance Framework Annual Report*, 2014. Edinburgh: HOPS.
- ⁴² Vigar et al., *op. cit.*
- ⁴³ http://www.rtpi.org.uk/media/1191762/rtpi_research_report_success_and_innovation_in_planning_full_report_8_november_2014.pdf
- ⁴⁴ McLaren and Armstrong, *Long-Term Scottish Budget Projections*. Fiscal Affairs Scotland, 2014. Web. 7 Sept. 2015.

- ⁴⁵ Audit Scotland, 2015. Note: This refers to local authorities generally.
- ⁴⁶ Audit Scotland, *Local Government Overview, 2015*. Edinburgh: Scottish Government, 2015. http://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/docs/local/2015/nr_150305_local_government_overview.pdf
- ⁴⁷ McLaren and Armstrong, *op. cit.*
- ⁴⁸ Audit Scotland. *Overview of Local Authorities in Scotland*. Edinburgh: Audit Scotland, 2014. Web. 7 Sept. 2015. Accounts Commission.p.16.
- ⁴⁹ CIPFA, *At the edge of chaos and ready for outcomes?*, Edinburgh: CIPFA, 2013. http://www.cipfa.org/-/media/files/regions/scotland/public_finances_at_the_edge_of_chaos_and_ready_for_outcomes.pdf.
- ⁵⁰ Audit Scotland, *op. cit.*
- ⁵¹ Heads of Planning Scotland *Cost of the Planning System Headline Figures*, 2014.
- ⁵² This figure is approximate, based on 2013/2014 local authority gross expenditure and Planning Performance Frameworks. The total gross expenditure is adjusted for non-reporting authorities based on the proportion of total NRE to gross expenditure.
- ⁵³ See Audit Scotland, 2014.
- ⁵⁴ Labour Statistics, Scottish Government, 2015. <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Labour-Market>
- ⁵⁵ Audit Scotland, *op. cit.*
- ⁵⁶ RTPI calculate that this figure officially sits at 18.1% (from 1726 employees in 2010 to 1413 in 2014/2015). However, this figure is likely slightly higher since 7 LPAs were non-reporting in the 2010 figures.
- ⁵⁷ Heads of Planning Scotland, *Planning Performance Framework Annual Report*, 2014. Edinburgh: HOPS.
- ⁵⁸ Audit Scotland, 2015.
- ⁵⁹ Inch, Andy. 'Changing the Culture of Scottish Planning: interpreting new regulations, shaping new practices, relationships and identities'. Sheffield: RICS Research Trust, 2013.
- ⁶⁰ See, for example, <http://www.planningdemocracy.org.uk/2015/more-and-more-people-are-calling-for-a-change-in-planning/>
- ⁶¹ Christie Commission. *Report On The Future Delivery Of Public Services By The Commission Chaired By Dr Campbell Christie*. Edinburgh: APS Group Scotland, 2011.
- ⁶² Monetary incentives are not enough. A study by Bonner and Sprinkle (2002) showed that increased performance must also be related to goal-setting, expectations, self-efficacy, and, among other things, effort-related and organisational variables. <http://www.arts.uwaterloo.ca/~dkoehler/ACC784/BonnerSprinkle2002.pdf>
- ⁶³ Scottish Government, *Scottish Planning Policy*, Edinburgh: Scottish Government 2014.
- ⁶⁴ RTPI, 2008, p 15.
- ⁶⁵ Adams and Watkins, *op. cit.*
- ⁶⁶ Eriksson, Claire, et al., *Innovative Finance for Real Estate Development in Pan-European Regeneration*. London: RICS Research, 2015.
- ⁶⁷ *Ibid.*, pp 18-19.
- ⁶⁸ *Ibid.*, p 14.
- ⁶⁹ RTPI Scotland found that 48% of 31 authorities reported an equal or increased number of pre-application discussions.
- ⁷⁰ Scottish Government, April 2015 Report.
- ⁷¹ Medda, Francesca, and Marta Modelewska. 'Land value capture as a funding source for urban investment: The Warsaw Metro System.' London: Ernst Young Better Government Programme, 2010. http://www.ucl.ac.uk/qaser/pdf/publications/ernst_young
- ⁷² Indeed, Local Democracy Scotland (2014) recommend that 'local government should have full local control of the whole suite of property taxes (Council Tax; Business Rates; Land and Property Transaction Tax) and the freedom to use these in ways that suit local circumstances.'
- ⁷³ Lydin, Yvonne, et al., *Five Radical Ideas for a Better Planning System*, London: UCL Bartlett, 2015. <https://www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/planning/five-radical-ideas/five-radical-ideas.pdf>
- ⁷⁴ <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0048/00483680.pdf>
- ⁷⁵ See, for example, the Scottish Government consultation on the so-called 'Penalty Clause'. <http://www.gov.scot/resource/doc/254430/0110302.pdf>
- ⁷⁶ Audit Scotland and Ipsos Mori, *Modernising the Planning System*, Edinburgh: Audit Scotland, 2011. p.15
- ⁷⁷ Of 150 and 175, respectively.
- ⁷⁸ Of 52 and 37, respectively.
- ⁷⁹ Of 26 developers, 34 businesses, and 157 agents.
- ⁸⁰ From the same sample, 44% of agents, 35% of businesses and 35% of developers thought some or a lot of progress has been made in ensuring 'the new planning system is more efficient and effective' (p. 29).
- ⁸¹ <http://www.improvementservice.org.uk/documents/planning/pdp-em-induction-pack.pdf>
- ⁸² Scottish Government, 2014. <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/Doc/300760/0093908.pdf>. p. 4.
- ⁸³ *loc cit.*
- ⁸⁴ Audit Scotland, 2011.
- ⁸⁵ RICS, *Culture Change in Scottish Planning*, Edinburgh: Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, 2013
- ⁸⁶ See Houghton, *op. cit.*; Carmona and Sieh, *op. cit.*
- ⁸⁷ http://www.ahuri.edu.au/publications/download/ahuri_70694_fr . Authors of this study also note that other market actors can influence the implementation and realisation of a plan. Therefore, performance markers of plan implementation, for example, are often not holistically understood simply in terms of a linear relationship.
- ⁸⁸ Houghton, *op. cit.*, p.5.
- ⁸⁹ Heads of Planning Scotland, *Planning Performance Framework Annual Report*. Edinburgh: Heads of Planning Scotland, 2014.
- ⁹⁰ *loc. cit.*
- ⁹¹ Scottish Government, PAN 70: Electronic Planning Service Delivery. Edinburgh: Scottish Executive., 2004.
- ⁹² <http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/general/news/stories/2009/may/2009-05-Week-0/scottishgovernment>
- ⁹³ Christie Commission Report. *op. cit.* .,p 21.
- ⁹⁴ http://www.local.gov.uk/web/guest/local-transparency/-/journal_content/56/10180/4049888/ARTICLE
- ⁹⁵ <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0044/00448438.pdf>

⁹⁶ See also Hampshire Linked Open Data Planning Register (<http://www.local.gov.uk/documents/10180/11655/Hampshire+Linked+Open+Data+Planning+Register+2015.pdf/76b4a889-de41-43be-bfbd-ad8262697e47>) and Ordnance Survey Greenspace map (<http://www.snh.gov.uk/planning-and-development/advice-for-planners-and-developers/greenspace-and-outdoor-access/scotlands-greenspace/dataset/>)

⁹⁷ See West of Scotland Archaeological Service interactive GIS map at <http://gis.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/mapsWosas/mapSMR.htm>

APPENDIX 1. CHANGE IN APPLICATION VOLUME (DECISIONS)

| | Q1 2012/2013 | Q2 2012/2013 | Q3 2012/2013 | Q4 2012/2013 | Q1 2013/2014 | Q2 2013/2014 | Q3 2013/2014 | Q4 2013/2014 | Q1 2014/2015 | Q2 2014/2015 | Q3 2014/2015 | Q4 2014/2015 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Major Applications | 59.00 | 64.00 | 79.00 | 79.00 | 91.00 | 81.00 | 90.00 | 94.00 | 91.00 | 69.00 | 77.00 | 81.00 |
| | | 8% | 23% | 0% | 15% | -11% | 11% | 4% | -3% | -24% | 12% | 5% |
| All Local developments | 7,833.00 | 7,674.00 | 7,386.00 | 6,587.00 | 7,890.00 | 7,909.00 | 7,277.00 | 7,049.00 | 7,860.00 | 7,988.00 | 7,334.00 | 6,592.00 |
| | | -2% | -4% | -11% | 20% | 0% | -8% | -3% | 12% | 2% | -8% | -10% |
| All Local developments (non householder) | 4,071.00 | 4,087.00 | 4,111.00 | 3,756.00 | 4,154.00 | 4,167.00 | 4,066.00 | 3,832.00 | 3,966.00 | 4,147.00 | 4,021.00 | 3,525.00 |
| | | 0% | 1% | -9% | 11% | 0% | -2% | -6% | 3% | 5% | -3% | -12% |
| Local (householder) | 3,762.00 | 3,587.00 | 3,275.00 | 2,831.00 | 3,763.00 | 3,742.00 | 3,211.00 | 3,217.00 | 3,894.00 | 3,842.00 | 3,313.00 | 3,067.00 |
| | | -5% | -9% | -14% | 33% | -1% | -14% | 0% | 21% | -1% | -14% | -7% |
| Major Business/Industry | 12.00 | 8.00 | 13.00 | 16.00 | 16.00 | 11.00 | 13.00 | 5.00 | 12.00 | 7.00 | 16.00 | 6.00 |
| | | -33% | 63% | 23% | 0% | -31% | 18% | -62% | 140% | -42% | 129% | -63% |
| Local Business/Industry | 628.00 | 651.00 | 659.00 | 612.00 | 601.00 | 614.00 | 591.00 | 583.00 | 611.00 | 628.00 | 556.00 | 464.00 |
| | | 4% | 1% | -7% | -2% | 2% | -4% | -1% | 5% | 3% | -11% | -17% |
| Major Housing | 21.00 | 25.00 | 31.00 | 24.00 | 30.00 | 29.00 | 41.00 | 47.00 | 39.00 | 24.00 | 21.00 | 41.00 |
| | | 19% | 24% | -23% | 25% | -3% | 41% | 15% | -17% | -38% | -13% | 95% |
| Local Housing | 1,428.00 | 1,403.00 | 1,511.00 | 1,372.00 | 1,455.00 | 1,507.00 | 1,443.00 | 1,425.00 | 1,408.00 | 1,540.00 | 1,544.00 | 1,343.00 |
| | | -2% | 8% | -9% | 6% | 4% | -4% | -1% | -1% | 9% | 0% | -13% |
| EIA | 18.00 | 25.00 | 25.00 | 30.00 | 31.00 | 17.00 | 24.00 | 19.00 | 22.00 | 17.00 | 14.00 | 21.00 |
| | | 39% | 0% | 20% | 3% | -45% | 41% | -21% | 16% | -23% | -18% | 50% |
| Other consents | 1,824.00 | 1,862.00 | 1,702.00 | 1,536.00 | 1,794.00 | 1,677.00 | 1,744.00 | 1,539.00 | 1,819.00 | 1,788.00 | 1,873.00 | 1,557.00 |
| | | 2% | -9% | -10% | 17% | -7% | 4% | -12% | 18% | -2% | 5% | -17% |

Application volume and change from previous quarter, including pre-2009 applications.

| | Q1 2012/2013 | Q2 2012/2013 | Q3 2012/2013 | Q4 2012/2013 | Q1 2013/2014 | Q2 2013/2014 | Q3 2013/2014 | Q4 2013/2014 | Q1 2014/2015 | Q2 2014/2015 | Q3 2014/2015 | Q4 2014/2015 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | 51.00 | 47.00 | 66.00 | 68.00 | 79.00 | 71.00 | 81.00 | 79.00 | 86.00 | 61.00 | 75.00 | 76.00 |
| Major Applications | | -8% | 40% | 3% | 16% | -10% | 14% | -2% | 9% | -29% | 23% | 1% |
| Major Business/ Industry | 11.00 | 7.00 | 10.00 | 15.00 | 14.00 | 10.00 | 12.00 | 5.00 | 12.00 | 6.00 | 16.00 | 5.00 |
| | | -36% | 43% | 50% | -7% | -29% | 20% | -58% | 140% | -50% | 167% | -69% |
| Major Housing | 16.00 | 17.00 | 22.00 | 24.00 | 30.00 | 29.00 | 34.00 | 36.00 | 34.00 | 21.00 | 20.00 | 38.00 |
| | | 6% | 29% | 9% | 25% | -3% | 17% | 6% | -6% | -38% | -5% | 90% |
| EIA | 15.00 | 23.00 | 25.00 | 29.00 | 31.00 | 17.00 | 24.00 | 19.00 | 22.00 | 17.00 | 14.00 | 20.00 |
| | | 53% | 9% | 16% | 7% | -45% | 41% | -21% | 16% | -23% | -18% | 43% |
| Legacy Cases | 51.00 | 57.00 | 44.00 | 45.00 | 75.00 | 36.00 | 26.00 | 41.00 | 12.00 | 22.00 | 6.00 | 20.00 |
| | | 12% | -23% | 2% | 67% | -52% | -28% | 58% | -71% | 83% | -73% | 233% |
| All local applications | 7,774.00 | 7,640.00 | 7,358.00 | 6,557.00 | 7,855.00 | 7,884.00 | 7,262.00 | 7,027.00 | 7,854.00 | 7,976.00 | 7,330.00 | 6,578.00 |
| | | -2% | -4% | -11% | 20% | 0% | -8% | -3% | 12% | 2% | -8% | -10% |
| Local (Householder) | 3,760.00 | 3,587.00 | 3,274.00 | 2,830.00 | 3,736.00 | 3,742.00 | 3,211.00 | 3,217.00 | 3,894.00 | 3,842.00 | 3,313.00 | 3,066.00 |
| | | -5% | -9% | -14% | 32% | 0% | -14% | 0% | 21% | -1% | -14% | -7% |
| Local (Nonhouseholder) | 4,014.00 | 4,053.00 | 4,084.00 | 3,727.00 | 4,119.00 | 4,142.00 | 4,051.00 | 3,810.00 | 3,960.00 | 4,135.00 | 4,017.00 | 3,512.00 |
| | | 1% | 1% | -9% | 11% | 1% | -2% | -6% | 4% | 4% | -3% | -13% |
| Local Business/Industry | 619.00 | 650.00 | 655.00 | 609.00 | 595.00 | 611.00 | 589.00 | 579.00 | 611.00 | 626.00 | 556.00 | 464.00 |
| | | 5% | 1% | -7% | -2% | 3% | -4% | -2% | 6% | 2% | -11% | -17% |
| Local Housing | 1,386.00 | 1,375.00 | 1,491.00 | 1,354.00 | 1,433.00 | 1,488.00 | 1,431.00 | 1,409.00 | 1,404.00 | 1,530.00 | 1,541.00 | 1,331.00 |
| | | -1% | 8% | -9% | 6% | 4% | -4% | -2% | 0% | 9% | 1% | -14% |
| Other Consents | 1,824.00 | 1,862.00 | 1,702.00 | 1,533.00 | 1,790.00 | 1,676.00 | 1,742.00 | 1,535.00 | 1,818.00 | 1,786.00 | 1,873.00 | 1,557.00 |
| | | 2% | -9% | -10% | 17% | -6% | 4% | -12% | 18% | -2% | 5% | -17% |

Application type and quarterly change in application volume. Source: SCQPS. Change in application volume suggests local application volume has remained relatively steady.

APPENDIX 2. CORRELATIONAL DATA

Selected correlations.

| Variable X | Variable Y | Correlation coefficient (r=) | Description |
|---|--|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <i>Major Application Volume</i> | Average Major Applications PT | - 0.09 | No or Negligible Relationship |
| <i>All Local developments Volume</i> | Average Local Application PT | - 0.24 | Weak Negative Relationship |
| All Local developments (non householder) volume | Average Local Application PT | 0.03 | Weak relationship |
| Local (householder) Volume | Average Local Application PT | - 0.36 | Weak Negative Relationship |
| Major Business/industry Volume | Average Major Applications PT | 0.15 | No or Negligible Relationship |
| Local Business/industry Volume | Average Local Application PT | 0.55 | Moderate relationship |
| Major Housing Volume | Average Major Applications PT | - 0.18 | No or Negligible Relationship |
| Local Housing Volume | Average Local Application PT | - 0.27 | Weak Negative Relationship |
| <i>Average Major Applications PT</i> | <i>Average Major Application PT</i> | 1.00 | <i>Perfect Correlation</i> |
| <i>Average Local developments PT</i> | <i>Average Local Application PT</i> | 1.00 | <i>Perfect Correlation</i> |
| All Local developments (non householder) PT | Average Local Application PT | 0.97 | Very Strong Correlation |
| Local (householder) PT | Average Local Application PT | 0.81 | Very Strong Correlation |
| Major Business/industry PT | Average Major Applications PT | 0.29 | Weak relationship |
| Local Business/industry PT | Average Local Application PT | 0.79 | Strong Correlation |
| Major Housing PT | Average Major Applications PT | 0.54 | Moderate relationship |
| Local Housing PT | Average Local Application PT | 0.84 | Strong Correlation |
| Legacy cases volume | Average Major Application PT | - 0.28 | Weak Negative Relationship |
| Legacy cases volume | Average Local Application PT | 0.56 | Moderate relationship |
| EIA volume | Average Major Application PT | - 0.34 | Weak Negative Relationship |
| EIA volume | Average Major Application PT | 0.42 | Moderate Relationship |
| % of local applications decided under 2 months | Expenditure in development management | -0.55 | Moderate Negative Relationship |
| Major Applications with Legal Agreement PT | Average Major Application PT | 0.47 | Moderate relationship |
| Major Applications with Legal Agreements Volume | Average Major Application PT | - 0.12 | Negligible Relationship |
| Major Application Volume | Average Local Application PT | - 0.54 | Moderate negative relationship |

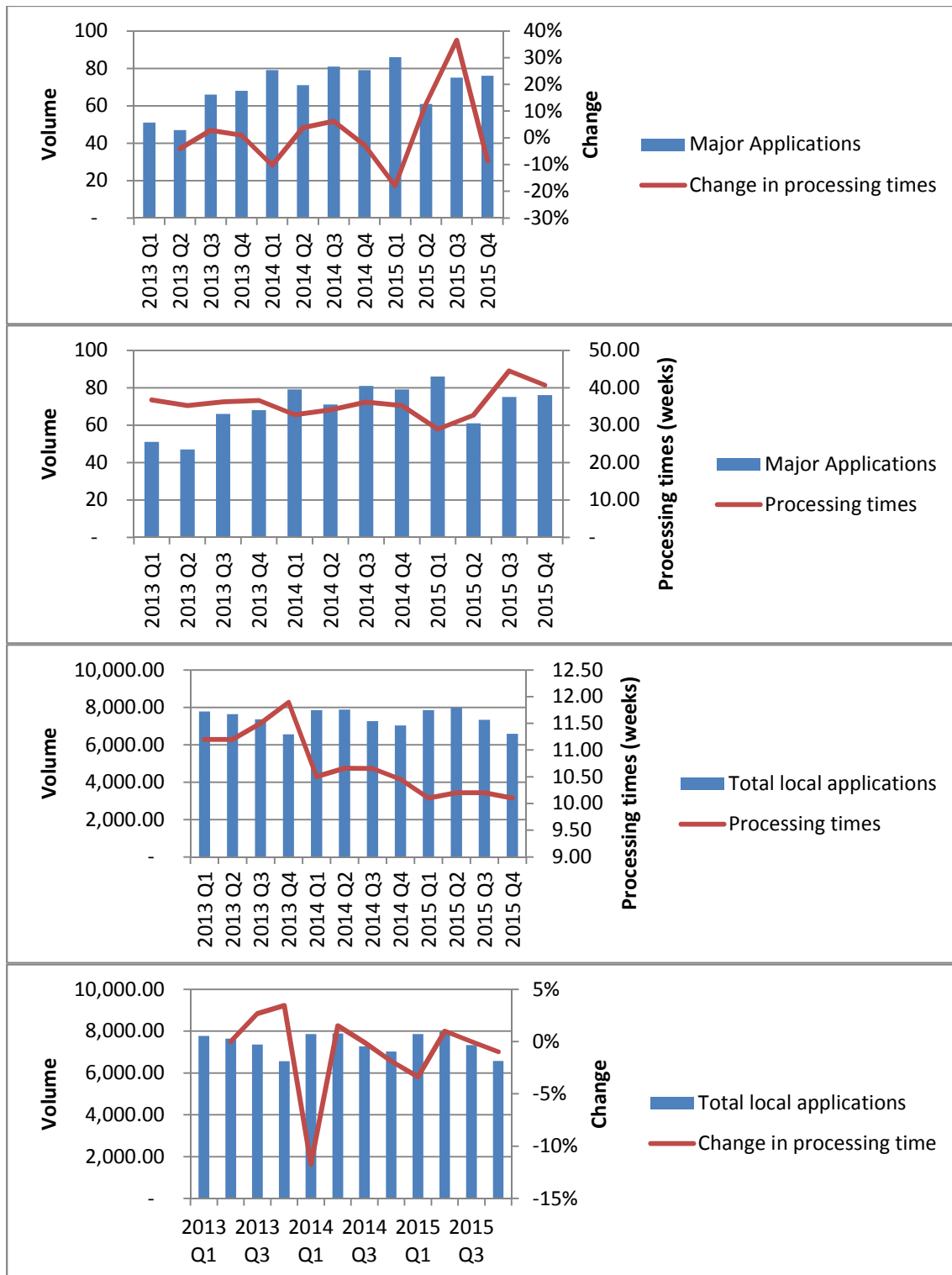
| As % of total Major and Local | Major Applications | Local developments (non householder) | Local (householder) | Major Business/Industry | Local Business/Industry | Major Housing | Local Housing | EIA | Other consents | Legacy cases | |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Major Applications | 1.00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| All Local developments | -1.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | | | | |
| All Local developments (non h | 0.29 | -0.29 | 1.00 | | | | | | | | |
| Local (householder) | -0.38 | 0.38 | -1.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | | |
| Major Business/Industry | 0.23 | -0.23 | 0.40 | -0.41 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| Local Business/Industry | -0.24 | 0.24 | 0.59 | -0.55 | 0.26 | 1.00 | | | | | |
| Major Housing | 0.07 | -0.07 | 0.11 | -0.19 | -0.20 | -0.33 | 1.00 | | | | |
| Local Housing | 0.51 | -0.51 | 0.79 | -0.81 | 0.24 | 0.19 | 0.28 | 1.00 | | | |
| EIA | 0.35 | -0.35 | 0.50 | -0.51 | 0.34 | 0.49 | 0.32 | 0.16 | 1.00 | | |
| Other consents | -0.07 | 0.07 | 0.29 | -0.27 | 0.42 | -0.01 | -0.29 | 0.23 | 0.00 | 1.00 | |
| Legacy cases | -0.34 | 0.34 | 0.13 | -0.10 | 0.02 | 0.43 | -0.20 | -0.31 | 0.54 | -0.24 | 1.00 |
| Local Review Body Decisions | 0.52 | -0.52 | 0.69 | -0.71 | 0.72 | 0.18 | 0.16 | 0.68 | 0.37 | 0.65 | -0.21 |
| Legal Agreements | 0.38 | -0.38 | 0.12 | -0.15 | -0.17 | 0.36 | 0.53 | 0.08 | 0.41 | -0.32 | -0.12 |
| Processing Agreements | 0.58 | -0.58 | -0.13 | 0.07 | 0.02 | -0.70 | 0.45 | 0.35 | -0.38 | 0.35 | -0.81 |
| Appeals to Scottish Ministers | -0.41 | 0.41 | 0.35 | -0.30 | -0.09 | 0.68 | -0.24 | 0.01 | 0.49 | -0.10 | -0.50 |
| Major PT | 0.14 | -0.14 | 0.54 | -0.53 | 0.23 | -0.14 | -0.02 | 0.69 | -0.17 | 0.62 | -0.24 |
| All local PT | -0.39 | 0.39 | 0.54 | -0.49 | 0.32 | 0.37 | -0.42 | 0.08 | 0.48 | 0.05 | 0.62 |
| Householder PT | -0.41 | 0.41 | 0.39 | -0.34 | 0.28 | 0.80 | -0.38 | -0.10 | 0.49 | 0.02 | 0.66 |
| Non Householder PT | -0.65 | 0.65 | 0.21 | -0.14 | 0.06 | 0.71 | -0.63 | -0.10 | 0.07 | -0.13 | 0.56 |
| Major Business/Industry PT | -0.30 | 0.30 | 0.12 | -0.09 | -0.18 | 0.10 | -0.27 | 0.12 | 0.09 | 0.38 | 0.09 |
| Local Business/Industry PT | -0.27 | 0.27 | 0.62 | -0.57 | 0.07 | 0.88 | -0.24 | 0.21 | 0.60 | 0.01 | 0.59 |
| Major Housing PT | 0.07 | -0.07 | 0.20 | -0.20 | 0.59 | -0.23 | -0.10 | 0.18 | -0.09 | 0.35 | -0.04 |
| Local Housing PT | -0.53 | 0.53 | 0.08 | -0.03 | 0.21 | 0.62 | -0.45 | -0.35 | 0.26 | -0.02 | 0.63 |
| EIA PT | -0.05 | 0.05 | -0.05 | 0.05 | -0.06 | 0.10 | -0.08 | 0.04 | -0.29 | -0.26 | -0.19 |
| Other consents PT | 0.01 | -0.01 | 0.64 | -0.62 | 0.15 | 0.61 | -0.03 | 0.48 | 0.17 | -0.10 | 0.37 |
| Legacy PT | -0.26 | 0.26 | -0.03 | 0.05 | -0.12 | 0.25 | -0.09 | -0.21 | 0.07 | -0.70 | 0.35 |
| Local Review Body PT | -0.01 | 0.01 | 0.17 | -0.17 | 0.13 | 0.12 | -0.26 | 0.43 | -0.28 | -0.21 | 0.00 |
| Legal Agreements PT | -0.42 | 0.42 | 0.09 | -0.04 | 0.34 | 0.05 | -0.52 | -0.04 | -0.10 | -0.07 | 0.39 |
| Appeals PT | -0.51 | 0.51 | 0.36 | -0.30 | 0.18 | 0.46 | -0.46 | -0.05 | 0.22 | 0.29 | 0.35 |
| Approval Rates | 0.34 | -0.34 | -0.58 | 0.53 | -0.30 | -0.58 | 0.44 | -0.38 | -0.18 | -0.48 | -0.27 |
| | Local Review Decision | Legal Agreements | Processing Agreements | Appeals to Scottish Ministers | Major PT | All local PT | Householder PT | Non-Householder PT | Major Business PT | Local Business PT | Major Housing PT |
| Major Applications | | | | | | | | | | | |
| All Local developments | | | | | | | | | | | |
| All Local developments (non householder) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local (householder) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Major Business/Industry | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local Business/Industry | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Major Housing | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local Housing | | | | | | | | | | | |
| EIA | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other consents | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Legacy cases | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local Review Body Decisions | 1.00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Legal Agreements | 0.02 | 1.00 | | | | | | | | | |
| Processing Agreements | 0.38 | -0.12 | 1.00 | | | | | | | | |
| Appeals to Scottish Ministers | -0.10 | 0.31 | -0.67 | 1.00 | | | | | | | |
| Major PT | 0.64 | -0.26 | 0.42 | -0.15 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| All local PT | 0.15 | 0.26 | -0.80 | 0.73 | 0.02 | 1.00 | | | | | |
| Householder PT | 0.04 | 0.32 | -0.81 | 0.73 | -0.09 | 0.97 | 1.00 | | | | |
| Non Householder PT | -0.14 | 0.08 | -0.81 | 0.56 | -0.05 | 0.81 | 0.76 | 1.00 | | | |
| Major Business/Industry PT | 0.06 | -0.15 | -0.14 | 0.13 | 0.29 | 0.23 | 0.19 | 0.28 | 1.00 | | |
| Local Business/Industry PT | 0.13 | 0.28 | -0.69 | 0.84 | -0.07 | 0.79 | 0.71 | 0.61 | 0.15 | 1.00 | |
| Major Housing PT | 0.41 | -0.31 | 0.23 | -0.12 | 0.54 | 0.07 | 0.09 | -0.16 | -0.30 | -0.25 | 1.00 |
| Local Housing PT | -0.12 | 0.34 | -0.74 | 0.61 | -0.17 | 0.84 | 0.92 | 0.74 | 0.03 | 0.51 | -0.16 |
| EIA PT | -0.26 | 0.15 | -0.11 | -0.20 | -0.07 | 0.16 | 0.18 | 0.16 | 0.20 | -0.25 | -0.02 |
| Other consents PT | 0.29 | 0.40 | -0.38 | 0.33 | 0.38 | 0.65 | 0.55 | 0.62 | -0.05 | 0.53 | 0.12 |
| Legacy PT | -0.54 | 0.10 | -0.61 | 0.43 | -0.41 | 0.40 | 0.45 | 0.37 | -0.20 | 0.18 | 0.07 |
| Local Review Body PT | 0.07 | -0.17 | -0.04 | -0.26 | 0.25 | 0.05 | -0.10 | 0.30 | 0.04 | -0.01 | 0.04 |
| Legal Agreements PT | -0.01 | -0.54 | -0.42 | 0.08 | 0.23 | 0.36 | 0.31 | 0.56 | 0.14 | 0.03 | 0.42 |
| Appeals PT | 0.06 | -0.18 | -0.57 | 0.51 | 0.18 | 0.72 | 0.72 | 0.59 | 0.56 | 0.42 | 0.11 |
| Approval Rates | -0.43 | -0.13 | 0.32 | -0.53 | -0.57 | -0.76 | -0.70 | -0.61 | -0.40 | -0.56 | -0.32 |
| | Local Housing PT | EIA PT | Other consents PT | Legacy PT | Local Review PT | Legal Agreement PT | Appeals PT | Approval Rates | | | |
| Major Applications | | | | | | | | | | | |
| All Local developments | | | | | | | | | | | |
| All Local developments (non householder) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local (householder) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Major Business/Industry | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local Business/Industry | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Major Housing | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local Housing | | | | | | | | | | | |
| EIA | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other consents | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Legacy cases | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local Review Body Decisions | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Legal Agreements | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Processing Agreements | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Appeals to Scottish Ministers | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Major PT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| All local PT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Householder PT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Non Householder PT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Major Business/Industry PT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local Business/Industry PT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Major Housing PT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local Housing PT | 1.00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| EIA PT | 0.15 | 1.00 | | | | | | | | | |
| Other consents PT | 0.48 | 0.15 | 1.00 | | | | | | | | |
| Legacy PT | 0.41 | 0.46 | 0.17 | 1.00 | | | | | | | |
| Local Review Body PT | -0.11 | 0.35 | 0.45 | 0.04 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| Legal Agreements PT | 0.30 | 0.06 | 0.26 | 0.39 | 0.37 | 1.00 | | | | | |
| Appeals PT | 0.55 | 0.20 | 0.21 | 0.33 | -0.25 | 0.48 | 1.00 | | | | |
| Approval Rates | -0.63 | -0.08 | -0.65 | 0.04 | -0.17 | -0.28 | -0.59 | 1.00 | | | |

Correlations between volume (as % of total applications) and processing times. Numerical value expresses strength of correlation between variables (0= no relationship, 1/-1= perfect positive/negative correlation). Positive or negative correlation represented by red/green bar, respectively. (PT= Processing Times; EIA= Environmental Impact Assessments)

| | Major Applications | All Local developments | All Local developments (non householder) | Local (householder) | Major Business/industry | Local Business/industry | Major Housing | Local Housing | EIA | Other consents | Legacy cases |
|--|--------------------|------------------------|--|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Major Applications | 1.0 | | | | | | | | | | |
| All Local developments | -0.2 | 1.0 | | | | | | | | | |
| All Local developments (non householder) | -0.2 | 0.9 | 1.0 | | | | | | | | |
| Local (householder) | -0.2 | 1.0 | 0.7 | 1.0 | | | | | | | |
| Major Business/industry | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.3 | -0.1 | 1.0 | | | | | | |
| Local Business/industry | -0.5 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 1.0 | | | | | |
| Major Housing | 0.8 | -0.3 | -0.5 | -0.2 | -0.2 | -0.6 | 1.0 | | | | |
| Local Housing | 0.1 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.3 | -0.3 | 1.0 | | | |
| EIA | 0.2 | -0.2 | -0.1 | -0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | -0.4 | 1.0 | | |
| Other consents | -0.3 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.4 | -0.6 | 0.4 | -0.2 | 1.0 | |
| Legacy cases | -0.4 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.4 | -0.2 | -0.3 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 1.0 |
| LRB Decisions | 0.3 | -0.2 | 0.0 | -0.3 | 0.8 | -0.1 | -0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 | -0.3 |
| Legal Agreements | 0.1 | -0.1 | -0.3 | 0.0 | -0.3 | 0.2 | 0.4 | -0.5 | 0.2 | -0.4 | 0.1 |
| Processing Agreements | 0.6 | -0.1 | -0.3 | 0.0 | 0.1 | -0.7 | 0.4 | 0.2 | -0.5 | 0.1 | -0.8 |
| Appeals to SM | -0.7 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.2 | -0.2 | 0.6 | -0.5 | -0.1 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| Major PT | -0.1 | -0.6 | -0.4 | -0.6 | 0.1 | -0.5 | -0.2 | 0.1 | -0.3 | -0.1 | -0.3 |
| All local PT | -0.5 | -0.2 | 0.0 | -0.4 | 0.2 | 0.5 | -0.5 | -0.3 | 0.4 | -0.2 | 0.6 |
| Householder PT | -0.5 | -0.2 | 0.0 | -0.3 | 0.2 | 0.5 | -0.5 | -0.4 | 0.4 | -0.2 | 0.6 |
| Non Householder PT | -0.7 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.7 | -0.7 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| Major Business/industry PT | -0.4 | -0.1 | 0.0 | -0.1 | -0.2 | 0.1 | -0.3 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Local Business/industry PT | -0.4 | -0.3 | 0.0 | -0.5 | 0.0 | 0.5 | -0.3 | -0.2 | 0.5 | -0.3 | 0.5 |
| Major Housing PT | 0.0 | -0.2 | -0.1 | -0.2 | 0.6 | -0.4 | -0.2 | 0.0 | -0.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Local Housing PT | -0.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.5 | -0.5 | -0.5 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.6 |
| EIA PT | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.2 | -0.1 | 0.2 | -0.3 | -0.1 | -0.2 |
| Other consents PT | -0.2 | -0.5 | -0.3 | -0.6 | 0.0 | 0.1 | -0.2 | -0.2 | 0.0 | -0.6 | 0.3 |
| Legacy PT | -0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | -0.1 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | -0.3 | 0.3 |
| Local Review PT | -0.2 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 | -0.3 | 0.4 | -0.3 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Legal Agreements PT | -0.4 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.2 | -0.5 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.4 |
| Appeals PT | -0.6 | 0.0 | 0.2 | -0.1 | 0.2 | 0.4 | -0.5 | -0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| Total spend | -0.7 | -0.1 | 0.0 | -0.2 | 0.1 | 0.5 | -0.7 | -0.3 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.4 |
| Median dept size | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.3 | -0.1 | 0.1 | 0.4 | 0.1 | -0.1 | 0.4 | -0.2 | 0.7 |
| Approval Rates | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.5 | -0.2 | -0.1 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.1 | -0.2 |
| | LRB Decisions | Legal Agreements | Processing Agreements | Appeals to SM | Major PT | All local PT | Householder PT | Non Householder PT | Major Business PT | Local Business PT | Major Housing PT |
| Major Applications | | | | | | | | | | | |
| All Local developments | | | | | | | | | | | |
| All Local developments (non householder) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local (householder) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Major Business/industry | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local Business/industry | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Major Housing | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local Housing | | | | | | | | | | | |
| EIA | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other consents | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Legacy cases | | | | | | | | | | | |
| LRB Decisions | 1.0 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Legal Agreements | -0.5 | 1.0 | | | | | | | | | |
| Processing Agreements | 0.4 | -0.2 | 1.0 | | | | | | | | |
| Appeals to SM | -0.5 | 0.1 | -0.8 | 1.0 | | | | | | | |
| Major PT | 0.5 | -0.6 | 0.4 | -0.4 | 1.0 | | | | | | |
| All local PT | 0.0 | 0.2 | -0.8 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 1.0 | | | | | |
| Householder PT | -0.1 | 0.3 | -0.8 | 0.6 | -0.1 | 1.0 | 1.0 | | | | |
| Non Householder PT | -0.1 | 0.1 | -0.8 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 1.0 | | | |
| Major Business/industry PT | 0.0 | -0.2 | -0.2 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 1.0 | | |
| Local Business/industry PT | 0.0 | 0.1 | -0.7 | 0.7 | -0.1 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.2 | 1.0 | |
| Major Housing PT | 0.4 | -0.5 | 0.2 | -0.2 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 0.1 | -0.2 | -0.3 | -0.2 | 1.0 |
| Local Housing PT | -0.2 | 0.4 | -0.7 | 0.6 | -0.2 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 0.2 |
| EIA PT | -0.2 | 0.3 | -0.1 | -0.1 | -0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | -0.2 | 0.0 |
| Other consents PT | 0.0 | 0.2 | -0.4 | 0.1 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 0.1 |
| Legacy PT | -0.6 | 0.2 | -0.6 | 0.5 | -0.4 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.4 | -0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Local Review PT | 0.1 | -0.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 | -0.1 | -0.2 | 0.3 | -0.2 | 0.2 | -0.1 |
| Legal Agreements PT | 0.1 | -0.5 | -0.4 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.4 |
| Appeals PT | 0.1 | -0.2 | -0.6 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.1 |
| Total spend | 0.0 | 0.2 | -0.7 | 0.6 | 0.1 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.0 |
| Median dept size | -0.2 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | -0.2 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | -0.3 | 0.4 | 0.0 |
| Approval Rates | -0.2 | 0.1 | 0.4 | -0.3 | -0.6 | -0.8 | -0.7 | -0.6 | -0.4 | -0.6 | -0.3 |
| | Local Housing PT | EIA PT | Other consents PT | Legacy PT | Local Review PT | Legal Agreement PT | Appeals PT | Total spend | Median dept size | Approval Rates | |
| Major Applications | | | | | | | | | | | |
| All Local developments | | | | | | | | | | | |
| All Local developments (non householder) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local (householder) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Major Business/industry | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local Business/industry | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Major Housing | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local Housing | | | | | | | | | | | |
| EIA | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other consents | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Legacy cases | | | | | | | | | | | |
| LRB Decisions | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Legal Agreements | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Processing Agreements | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Appeals to SM | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Major PT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| All local PT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Householder PT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Non Householder PT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Major Business/industry PT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local Business/industry PT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Major Housing PT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local Housing PT | 1.0 | | | | | | | | | | |
| EIA PT | 0.2 | 1.0 | | | | | | | | | |
| Other consents PT | 0.5 | 0.2 | 1.0 | | | | | | | | |
| Legacy PT | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 1.0 | | | | | | | |
| Local Review PT | -0.1 | -0.4 | 0.3 | -0.3 | 1.0 | | | | | | |
| Legal Agreements PT | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 1.0 | | | | | |
| Appeals PT | 0.6 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 | -0.4 | 0.5 | 1.0 | | | | |
| Total spend | 0.8 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0.2 | -0.1 | 0.2 | 0.7 | 1.0 | | | |
| Median dept size | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 1.0 | | |
| Approval Rates | -0.6 | -0.1 | -0.7 | 0.0 | -0.1 | -0.3 | -0.6 | -0.8 | 0.0 | 1.0 | |

Correlations between volume and processing times. Numerical value expresses strength of correlation between variables (0= no relationship, 1/-1= perfect positive/negative correlation). Positive or negative correlation represented by red/green bar, respectively. (PT= Processing Times; EIA= Environmental Impact Assessments)

APPENDIX 3: APPLICATION VOLUME TO PROCESSING TIMES AND CHANGE IN PROCESSING TIMES (MAJOR AND LOCAL)



APPENDIX 4. APPEALS VOLUME AND UPHELD DECISIONS

| | 2013 Q1 | 2013 Q2 | 2013 Q3 | 2013 Q4 | 2014 Q1 | 2014 Q2 | 2014 Q3 | 2014 Q4 | 2015 Q1 | 2015 Q2 | 2015 Q3 | 2015 Q4 |
|---|---|------------|------------|-------------|---|------------|------------|------------|---|------------|------------|------------|
| % Upheld in Local Review | 58% | 64% | 49% | 65% | 68% | 61% | 58% | 53% | 58% | 62% | 72% | 63% |
| % Upheld in Appeals to Scottish Ministers | 60% | 64% | 65% | 59% | 53% | 59% | 59% | 45% | 50% | 51% | 53% | 55% |
| Total Local Review Body decisions | 122 | 132 | 136 | 147 | 141 | 125 | 144 | 122 | 140 | 115 | 174 | 126 |
| Total DPEA Appeal Actions | 116 | 138 | 115 | 129 | 109 | 116 | 106 | 98 | 99 | 131 | 83 | 98 |
| TOTAL | 238 | 270 | 251 | 276 | 250 | 241 | 250 | 220 | 239 | 246 | 257 | 224 |
| Total as % | 3.0% | 3.5% | 3.4% | 4.2% | 3.2% | 3.0% | 3.4% | 3.1% | 3.0% | 3.1% | 3.5% | 3.4% |
| TOTAL UPHELD | 141 | 172 | 141 | 171 | 153 | 144 | 146 | 109 | 131 | 138 | 169 | 133 |
| Upheld as proportion of total decisions | 59% | 64% | 56% | 62% | 61% | 60% | 58% | 50% | 55% | 56% | 66% | 59% |
| Upheld as proportion of all applications | 1.80% | 2.24% | 1.90% | 2.58% | 1.93% | 1.81% | 1.99% | 1.53% | 1.65% | 1.72% | 2.28% | 2.00% |
| | Total 2012/2013 | | | 1035 | Total 2013/2014 | | | 961 | Total 2014/2015 | | | 966 |
| | Total upheld 2012/2013 | | | 625 | Total upheld 2012/2013 | | | 552 | Total upheld 2012/2013 | | | 570 |
| | Upheld as proportion of annual total | | | 60% | Upheld as proportion of annual total | | | 57% | Upheld as proportion of annual total | | | 59% |

APPENDIX 5. PROPORTIONAL APPLICATION VOLUME TO PROCESSING TIMES.

| Number of applications | 2013 Q1 | 2013 Q2 | 2013 Q3 | 2013 Q4 | 2014 Q1 | 2014 Q2 | 2014 Q3 | 2014 Q4 | 2015 Q1 | 2015 Q2 | 2015 Q3 | 2015 Q4 |
|------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Major PT | 36.70 | 35.20 | 36.20 | 36.57 | 32.81 | 34.06 | 36.17 | 35.23 | 28.90 | 32.60 | 44.50 | 40.70 |
| All local PT | 11.20 | 11.20 | 11.50 | 11.90 | 10.50 | 10.66 | 10.65 | 10.45 | 10.10 | 10.20 | 10.20 | 10.10 |
| Householder PT | 14.30 | 14.00 | 14.20 | 14.89 | 13.13 | 13.18 | 13.23 | 12.76 | 12.70 | 12.50 | 12.20 | 12.60 |
| NHH PT | 7.90 | 8.00 | 8.00 | 7.94 | 7.60 | 7.90 | 7.40 | 7.70 | 7.50 | 7.60 | 7.60 | 7.40 |
| MB PT | 37.20 | 62.60 | 89.00 | 24.23 | 37.36 | 22.53 | 21.90 | 16.00 | 29.40 | 35.50 | 44.60 | 61.80 |
| LBPT | 10.80 | 12.30 | 11.90 | 12.70 | 11.09 | 10.69 | 11.28 | 11.55 | 10.30 | 11.30 | 10.50 | 10.50 |
| MHPT | 51.20 | 34.80 | 34.10 | 47.30 | 44.43 | 42.79 | 46.44 | 35.35 | 35.30 | 38.50 | 49.70 | 43.80 |
| LHPT | 18.30 | 16.90 | 16.00 | 17.80 | 15.33 | 15.59 | 14.78 | 15.03 | 15.30 | 14.30 | 13.90 | 14.40 |
| EIA PT | 53.40 | 25.60 | 58.00 | 35.20 | 31.00 | 44.40 | 41.50 | 39.80 | 44.60 | 40.50 | 36.30 | 38.90 |
| Other consents PT | 9.70 | 9.40 | 9.80 | 10.20 | 9.00 | 9.60 | 9.20 | 10.20 | 8.70 | 8.80 | 9.50 | 9.20 |
| Legacy PT | 223.00 | 167.40 | 212.30 | 214.30 | 195.00 | 250.40 | 204.90 | 181.90 | 171.70 | 216.50 | 130.80 | 179.40 |
| Local review PT | 13.20 | 11.20 | 14.30 | 12.90 | 13.10 | 13.20 | 11.20 | 14.30 | 11.80 | 13.50 | 14.50 | 11.70 |
| LG PT | 54.00 | 49.40 | 52.20 | 50.50 | 55.50 | 61.20 | 43.70 | 41.50 | 38.70 | 46.00 | 53.60 | 44.40 |
| Appeals PT | 60.30 | 63.80 | 65.20 | 58.90 | 53.20 | 58.60 | 59.40 | 44.90 | 49.50 | 51.10 | 53.00 | 55.10 |

| Application type | 2013 Q1 | 2013 Q2 | 2013 Q3 | 2013 Q4 | 2014 Q1 | 2014 Q2 | 2014 Q3 | 2014 Q4 | 2015 Q1 | 2015 Q2 | 2015 Q3 | 2015 Q4 |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Major Applications | 0.65% | 0.61% | 0.89% | 1.03% | 1.00% | 0.89% | 1.10% | 1.11% | 1.08% | 0.76% | 1.01% | 1.14% |
| All Local developments | 99.35% | 99.39% | 99.11% | 98.97% | 99.00% | 99.11% | 98.90% | 98.89% | 98.92% | 99.24% | 98.99% | 98.86% |
| (non householder) | 51.30% | 52.73% | 55.01% | 56.26% | 51.92% | 52.07% | 55.17% | 53.62% | 49.87% | 51.45% | 54.25% | 52.78% |
| Local (householder) | 48.05% | 46.66% | 44.10% | 42.72% | 47.09% | 47.04% | 43.73% | 45.27% | 49.04% | 47.80% | 44.74% | 46.08% |
| Major Business/industry | 0.14% | 0.09% | 0.13% | 0.23% | 0.18% | 0.13% | 0.16% | 0.07% | 0.15% | 0.07% | 0.22% | 0.08% |
| Local Business/industry | 7.91% | 8.46% | 8.82% | 9.19% | 7.50% | 7.68% | 8.02% | 8.15% | 7.70% | 7.79% | 7.51% | 6.97% |
| Major Housing | 0.20% | 0.22% | 0.30% | 0.36% | 0.38% | 0.36% | 0.46% | 0.51% | 0.43% | 0.26% | 0.27% | 0.57% |
| Local Housing | 17.71% | 17.89% | 20.08% | 20.44% | 18.06% | 18.71% | 19.49% | 19.83% | 17.68% | 19.04% | 20.81% | 20.00% |
| EIA | 0.19% | 0.30% | 0.34% | 0.44% | 0.39% | 0.21% | 0.33% | 0.27% | 0.28% | 0.21% | 0.19% | 0.30% |
| Other consents | 23.31% | 24.22% | 22.93% | 23.14% | 22.56% | 21.07% | 23.72% | 21.60% | 22.90% | 22.22% | 25.29% | 23.40% |
| Legacy cases | 0.65% | 0.74% | 0.59% | 0.68% | 0.95% | 0.45% | 0.35% | 0.58% | 0.15% | 0.27% | 0.08% | 0.30% |
| LRB Decisions | 1.56% | 1.72% | 1.83% | 2.22% | 1.78% | 1.57% | 1.96% | 1.72% | 1.76% | 1.43% | 2.35% | 1.89% |
| Legal Agreements Processing | 1.71% | 1.64% | 1.76% | 2.10% | 1.49% | 1.58% | 1.62% | 2.10% | 2.00% | 1.49% | 1.30% | 1.92% |
| Agreements | 0.24% | 0.12% | 0.09% | 0.18% | 0.28% | 0.29% | 0.57% | 0.49% | 0.72% | 0.50% | 1.01% | 0.92% |
| Appeals to Scottish Ministers | 1.48% | 1.80% | 1.55% | 1.95% | 1.37% | 1.46% | 1.44% | 1.38% | 1.25% | 1.63% | 1.12% | 1.47% |


Figure 1 Processing times by application type and quarter and decisions (as % of total major/local) by type and quarter. Box with broken red lines (2013 Q4) indicates poorest performance quarter (major and local application processing times) and box with solid red lines indicates the quarter with the best performance in the period.

APPENDIX 6. NUMBER OF PLANNING GRADUATES IN SCOTLAND.

| | | | | | Nationality of students** | | |
|----------|----------------------|--------------|-----------|----------------|---------------------------|-----|----------|
| | | | | | UK | EU | Overseas |
| | No. Planning Schools | New Entrants | Graduates | Total Students | | | |
| 2014-15 | 4 | 103 | 96 | 224 | 146 | 26 | 47 |
| 2013-14 | 4 | 108 | 78 | 232 | 160 | 20 | 35 |
| 2012-13* | 4 | 97 | 80 | 224 | 170 | 19 | 36 |
| 2011-12* | 5 | 122 | 110 | 284 | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 2010-11 | 5 | 152 | 130 | 311 | N/A | N/A | N/A |

*data missing from 1 planning school

** no nationality data collected in 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12



Royal Town Planning Institute Scotland, 18 Atholl Crescent, Edinburgh EH3 8HQ

**www.rtpi.org.uk/scotland
scotland@rtpi.org.uk
[@rtpiscotland](https://www.instagram.com/rtpiscotland)
0131 229 9628**

Head Office: Royal Town Planning Institute, 41 Botolph Lane, London EC3R 8DL
Registered Charity Number 262865 Scottish Registered Charity Number: SC 037841