Volume of New Casework Received
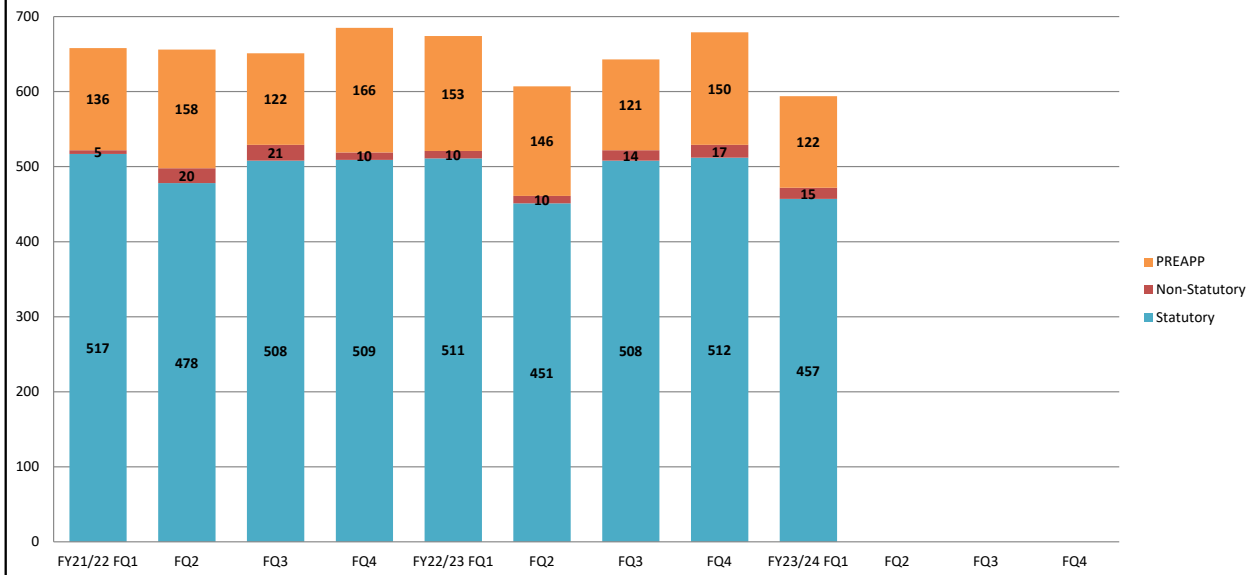
Stacked bar chart with legend:
- PREAPP
- Non-Statutory
- Statutory

Quarter	PREAPP	Non-Statutory	Statutory
FY21/22 FQ1	136	5	517
FQ2	158	20	478
FQ3	122	21	508
FQ4	166	10	509
FY22/23 FQ1	153	10	511
FQ2	146	10	451
FQ3	121	14	508
FQ4	150	17	512
FY23/24 FQ1	122	15	457

Split of Casework Received: FY22/23

Pie chart:
- Statutory 76.1%
- Non-Statutory 2.0%
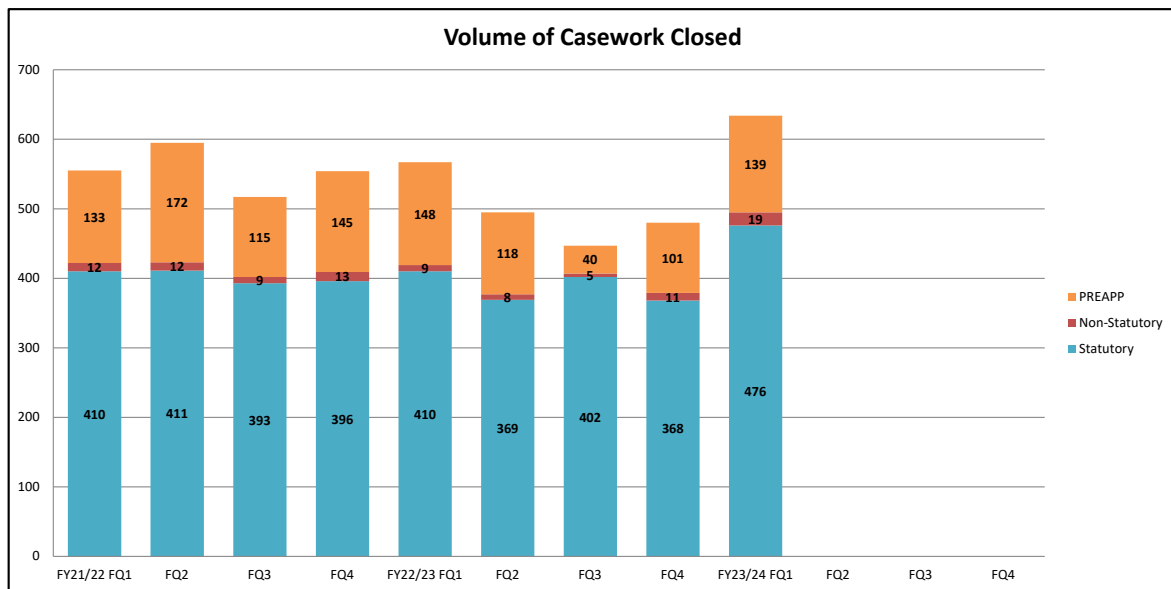- PREAPP 21.9%
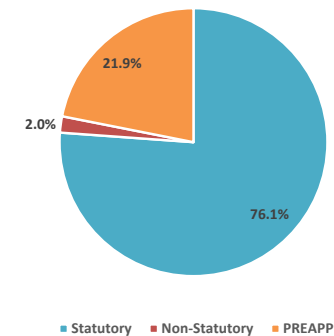
Commentary:
The data set covers the last 9 financial quarters and confirms that demand for the determination of planning applications and other statutory activity of the Council as the Planning Authority remains high and relatively constant in its volume. The volume of new submissions for 2022/23 were up 5% on pre-pandemic levels and appear likely to be sustained moving forward.

This tab provides information on the volume of DM case work received by financial quarter and includes a breakdown between statutory items (planning and related applications), non-statutory items (consultations from other regulatory bodies), and pre-application enquiries.

New Casework Received

Volumes	FY21/22 FQ1	FQ2	FQ3	FQ4	FY22/23 FQ1	FQ2	FQ3	FQ4	FY23/24 FQ1	FQ2	FQ3	FQ4
Statutory	517	478	508	509	511	451	508	512	457			
Non-Statutory	5	20	21	10	10	10	14	17	15			
PREAPP	136	158	122	166	153	146	121	150	122			
Totals	658	656	651	685	674	607	643	679	594	0	0	0

Split of Casework Received

	FY21/22		FY22/23		FQ1	
Statutory	2012	75.9%	1982	76.1%	457	76.9%
Non-Statutory	56	2.1%	51	2.0%	15	2.5%
PREAPP	582	22.0%	570	21.9%	122	20.5%
	2650		2603		594	

This data is unfiltered - it shows all casework received.
data source = UNIform (Access queries)

Volume of Casework Closed

	FY21/22 FQ1	FQ2	FQ3	FQ4	FY22/23 FQ1	FQ2	FQ3	FQ4	FY23/24 FQ1
PREAPP	133	172	115	145	148	118	40	101	139
Non-Statutory	12	12	9	13	9	8	5	11	19
Statutory	410	411	393	396	410	369	402	368	476

This tab provides detail on the volume of DM casework that has been closed and includes a breakdown between statutory items (planning and related applications), non-statutory items (consultations from other regulatory bodies), and pre-application enquiries.
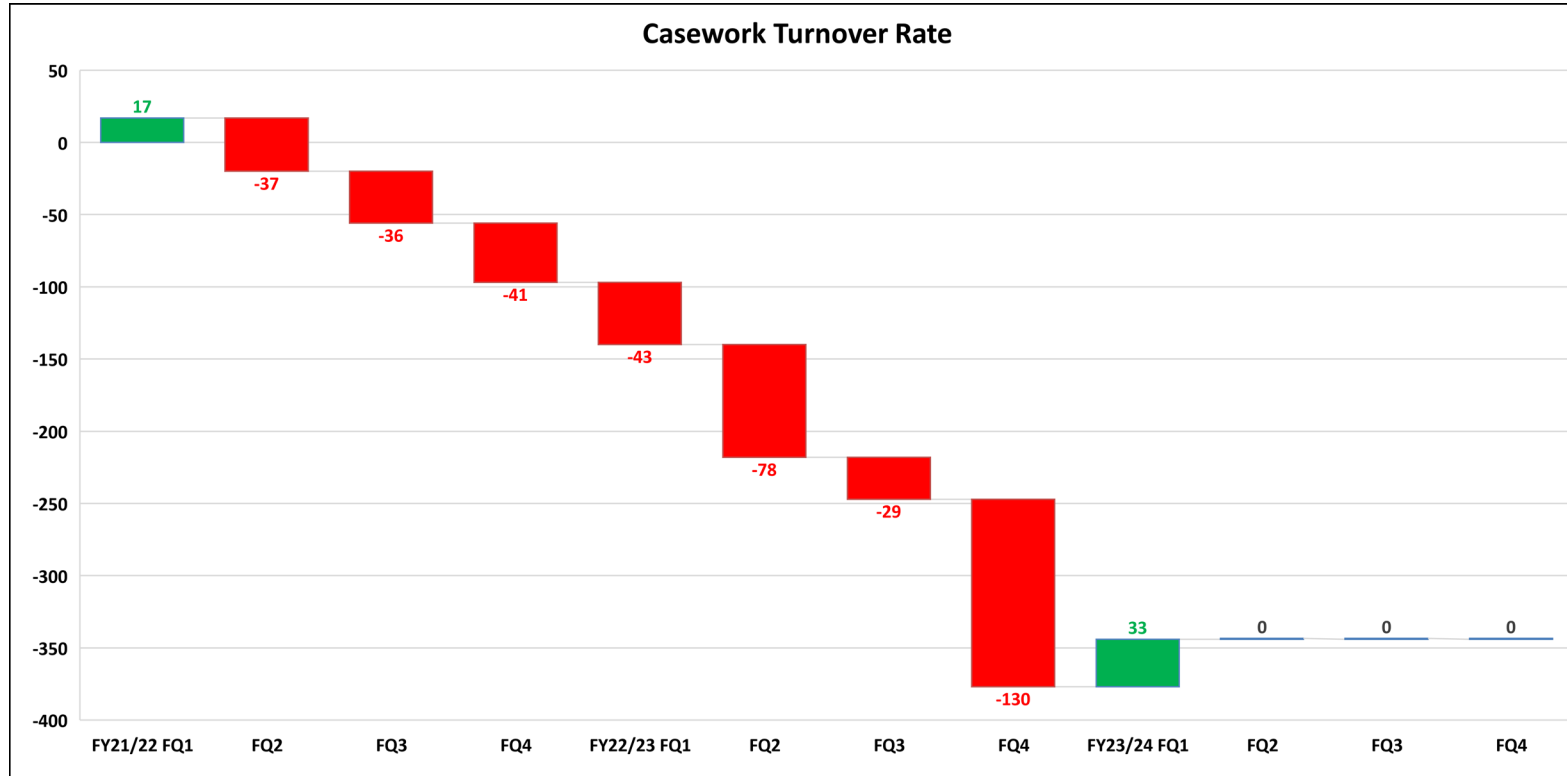
Split of Casework Closed: FY22/23

20.5%
1.7%
77.9%

Statutory   Non-Statutory   PREAPP
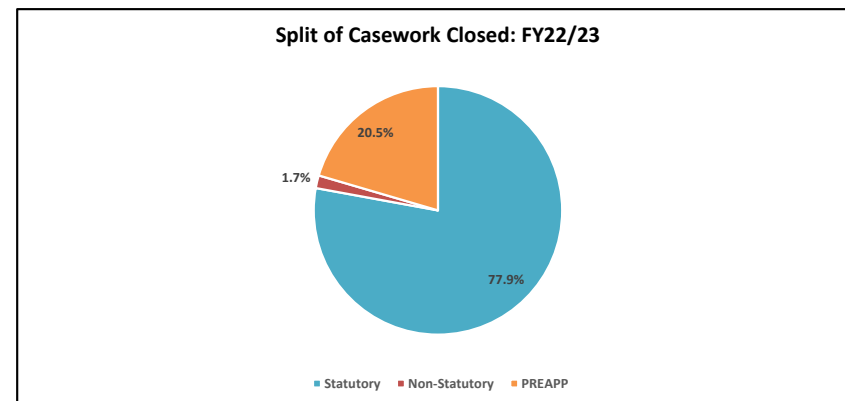
Commentary:
The data set covers the last 9 financial quarters and demsonstrates that regardless of performance issues in respect of timeliness output remains high. Output during both 2021/22 and 2022/23 output has however been down between 20-25% as a result of interruption of workflow during Covid coupled with the constant stream of new casework and reduced availability of officer resource which was in part a result of increased absence but also more significantly as a result of difficulty in recruiting to vacant posts attributable to a national shortage of planning professionals. Recent success in recruitment along with the creation of additional posts has gone a large way toward addressing staff resourcing issues although two vacancies still remain. The introduction of new legislation and/or policy also has potential to impact significantly on output as current working practices and guidance require to be reviewed and updated and officer training provided - the Scottish Government's decision to adopt National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) in Feb 2023 was identified as giving rise to a significant drop in output during FQ4 2022/23. FQ1 2023/24 has shown a notable rise in output from previous quarters which is indicative of the increasing availability of officer resource and a more settled position following the initial introduction of NPF4.

Casework Closed												
Volumes	**FY21/22 FQ1**	**FQ2**	**FQ3**	**FQ4**	**FY22/23 FQ1**	**FQ2**	**FQ3**	**FQ4**	**FY23/24 FQ1**	**FQ2**	**FQ3**	**FQ4**
Statutory	410	411	393	396	410	369	402	368	476			
Non-Statutory	12	12	9	13	9	8	5	11	19			
PREAPP	133	172	115	145	148	118	40	101	139			

Split of Casework Closed					
FY21/22		**FY22/23**		**FQ1**	
1610	72.5%	1549	77.9%	476	75.1%
46	2.1%	33	1.7%	19	3.0%
565	25.4%	407	20.5%	139	21.9%
2221		1989		634	

This data is unfiltered - it shows all casework closed.
data source = UNIform (Access queries)

Casework Turnover Rate

This tab shows a comparison between the volume of new statutory and non-statutory casework and output per financial quarter. The Y axis has been formatted to track the cumulative backlog of applications that have accrued since FQ1 2021/22.

Casework Turnover - Volume											
Volumes	**FY21/22 FQ1**	**FQ2**	**FQ3**	**FQ4**	**FY22/23 FQ1**	**FQ2**	**FQ3**	**FQ4**	**FY23/24 FQ1**	**FQ2**	**FQ3**	**FQ4**
Closed	422	423	402	409	419	377	407	379	495	0	0	0
Validated	405	460	438	450	462	455	436	509	462	0	0	0
Difference (no)	**17**	**-37**	**-36**	**-41**	**-43**	**-78**	**-29**	**-130**	**33**	**0**	**0**	**0**

This data is unfiltered - it shows the number of cases closed vs number of cases validated.
data source = UNIform (Access queries)

PREAPP Turnover Rate
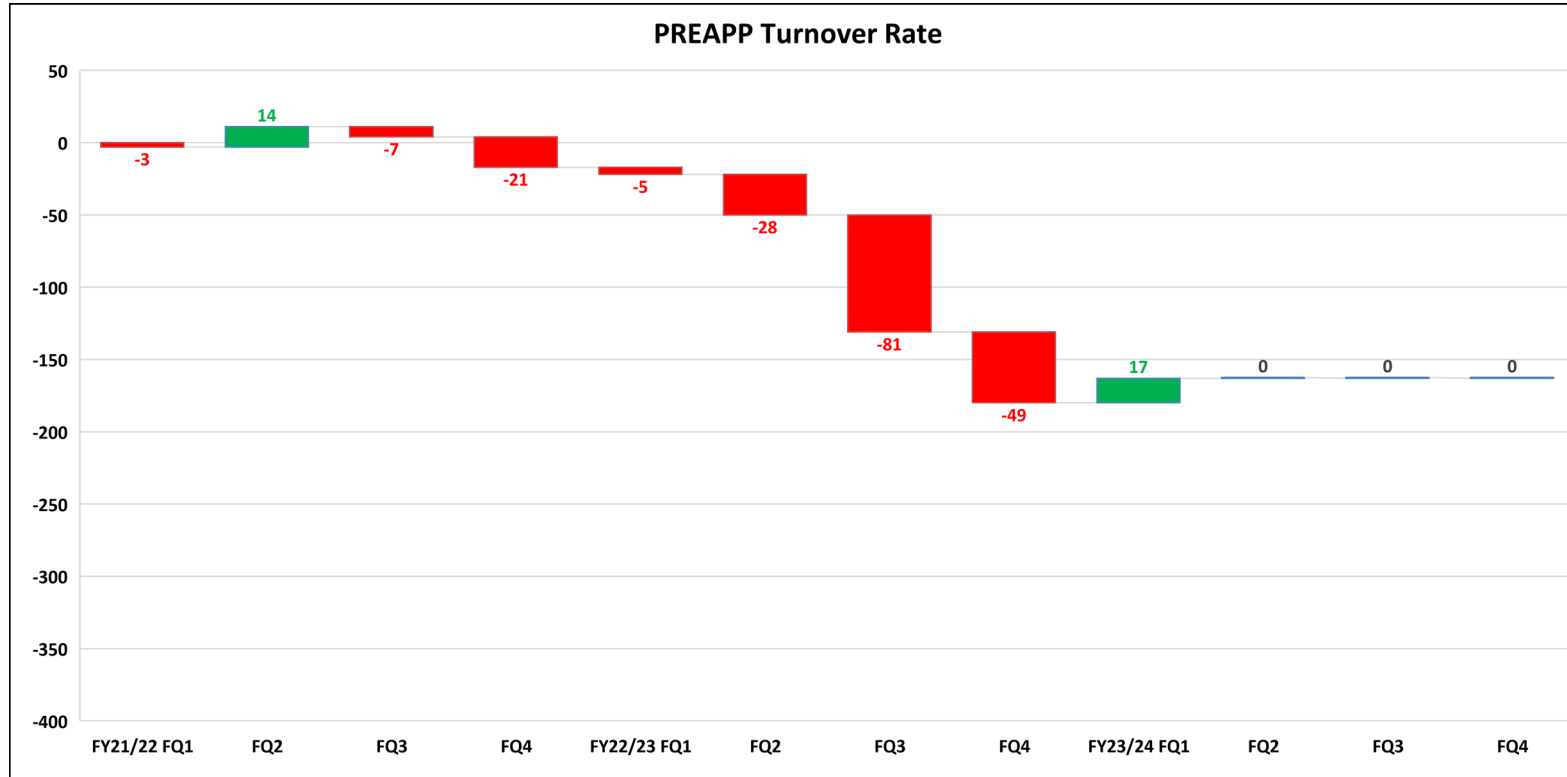
Commentary:
The graph shows that after 6 financial quarters where output has been lower than input a backlog of 180 pre-app casework items had been amassed since the start of FY21/22. Improving performance during FQ1 2023/24 has reduced the backlog at the end of June 2023 to 163 pre-app enquiries.

This tab shows a comparison between the volume of new pre-application casework and output per financial quarter. The Y axis has been formatted to track the cumulative backlog of pre-application enquiries that have accrued since FQ1 2021/22.

PREAPP Turnover - Volume											
Volumes	**FY21/22 FQ1**	**FQ2**	**FQ3**	**FQ4**	**FY22/23 FQ1**	**FQ2**	**FQ3**	**FQ4**	**FY23/24 FQ1**	**FQ2**	**FQ3**	**FQ4**
Closed	133	172	115	145	148	118	40	101	139	0	0	0
Received	136	158	122	166	153	146	121	150	122	0	0	0
Difference (no)	**-3**	**14**	**-7**	**-21**	**-5**	**-28**	**-81**	**-49**	**17**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Number of PREAPP's closed vs number of PREAPP's validated.

data source = UNIform (Access queries)

The Average Time Taken to <u>Determine</u> Householder Planning Applications
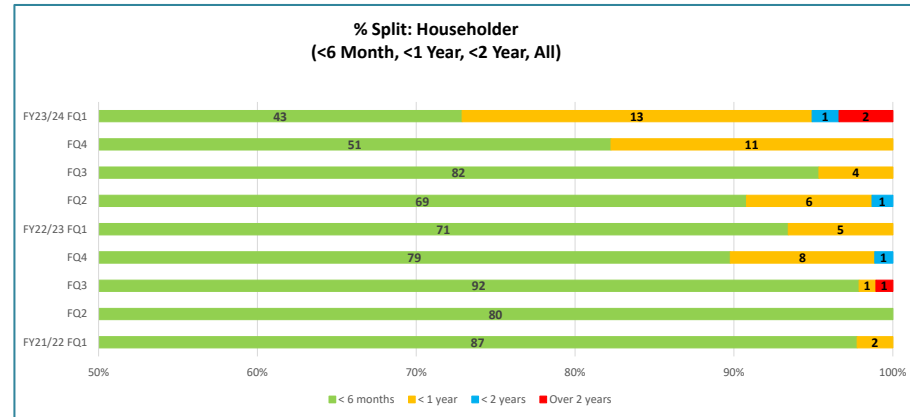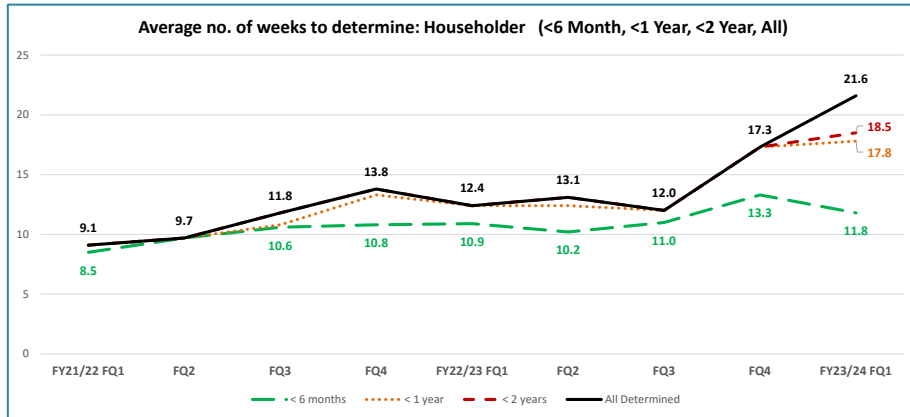
This tab provides detail on the average time taken to determine 'householder' planning applications, this is based on raw data which does not take into account any delays that might arise from matters outwith the control of the planning authority.

Average Time to Determine Applications: Householder (<6 Month, <1 Year, <2 Year, All)												
	FY21/22 FQ1	FQ2	FQ3	FQ4	FY22/23 FQ1	FQ2	FQ3	FQ4	FY23/24 FQ1	FQ2	FQ3	FQ4
< 6 months	8.5	9.7	10.6	10.8	10.9	10.2	11.0	13.3	11.8			
< 1 year	9.1	9.7	10.8	13.3	12.4	12.4	12.0	17.3	17.8			
< 2 years	9.1	9.7	11.8	13.8	12.4	13.1	12.0	17.3	18.5			
All Determined	9.1	9.7	11.8	13.8	12.4	13.1	12.0	17.3	21.6			

Volume of Applications Determined: Householder (<6 Month, <1 Year, <2 Year, All)												
	FY21/22 FQ1	FQ2	FQ3	FQ4	FY22/23 FQ1	FQ2	FQ3	FQ4	FY23/24 FQ1	FQ2	FQ3	FQ4
< 6 months	87	80	92	79	71	69	82	51	43			
< 1 year	2	0	1	8	5	6	4	11	13			
< 2 years	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1			
Over 2 years	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2			
Total	89	80	94	88	76	76	86	62	59	0	0	0

This data is filtered - as per Scottish Government statistical returns - to allow benchmarking. "Householder" = Development Type N01.
data source = UNIform (Access queries)

Commentary:
The line graph shows performance over time; the 'All Determined' average can be readily impacted by the determination of a small number of 'legacy' applications. The improving resource availability has allowed the focus of the DM Service is to move from addressing the most urgent applications to also addressing the wider backlog of application casework. Increasing output does however mean that a higher volume of 'legacy' applications will be determined with significant deteriment to average time measures as is seen with the deterioration of performance during FQ4 2022/23 and FQ1 2023/24. In order to provide some context additional information is provided that demonstrates the effect of removing older applications from reporting to provide a truer picture of the time taken to deliver the larger proportion of casework. The bar graph provides this breakdown in a format which shows the increasing volume of older applications currently being determined but also confirms that a significant proportion of output is still undertaken in a timely manner.

The Average Time Taken to <u>Determine</u> Local (excluding Householder) Planning Applications

Ave no. of weeks to determine: Local (Excluding Householder)   (<6 Month, <1 Year, <2 Year, All)

**% Split: Local (excluding Householder)
(<6 Month, <1 Year, <2 Year, All)**
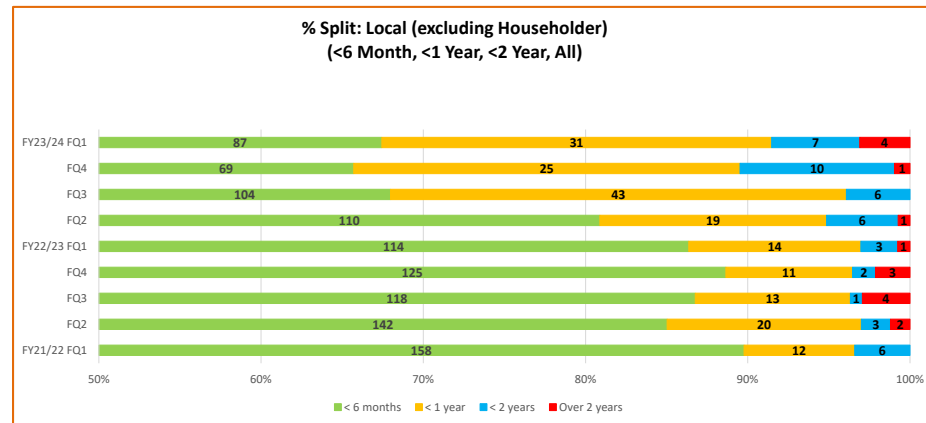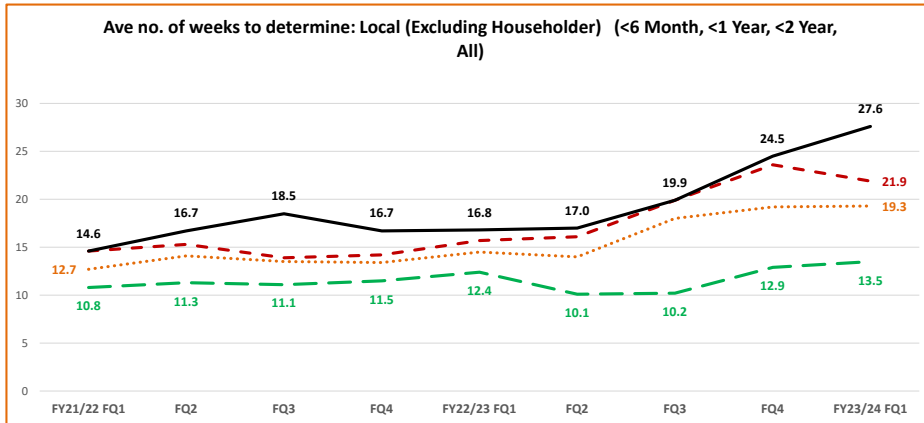
This tab provides detail on the average time taken to determine 'local' planning applications, this is based on raw data which does not take into account any delays that might arise from matters outwith the control of the planning authority.

Average Time to Determine Applications: Local (Excluding Householder) (<6 Month, <1 Year, <2 Year, All)											
	FY21/22 FQ1	FQ2	FQ3	FQ4	FY22/23 FQ1	FQ2	FQ3	FQ4	FY23/24 FQ1	FQ2	FQ3	FQ4
< 6 months	10.8	11.3	11.1	11.5	12.4	10.1	10.2	12.9	13.5			
< 1 year	12.7	14.1	13.5	13.4	14.5	14.0	18.0	19.2	19.3			
< 2 years	14.6	15.3	13.9	14.2	15.7	16.1	19.9	23.6	21.9			
All Determined	14.6	16.7	18.5	16.7	16.8	17.0	19.9	24.5	27.6			

Volume of Applications Determined: Local (Excluding Householder) (<6 Month, <1 Year, <2 Year, All)											
	FY21/22 FQ1	FQ2	FQ3	FQ4	FY22/23 FQ1	FQ2	FQ3	FQ4	FY23/24 FQ1	FQ2	FQ3	FQ4
< 6 months	158	142	118	125	114	110	104	69	87			
< 1 year	12	20	13	11	14	19	43	25	31			
< 2 years	6	3	1	2	3	6	6	10	7			
Over 2 years	0	2	4	3	1	1	0	1	4			
Total	176	167	136	141	132	136	153	105	129	0	0	0

This data is filtered - as per Scottish Government statistical returns - to allow benchmarking. "Local (excluding Householder)" = Development Types N02B/C, N03B/C, N04B/C, N05B/C, N06B/C, N07B/C, N08B/C, N09B/C, N10B/C.
data source = UNIform (Access queries)

Commentary:
The line graph shows performance over time; the 'All Determined' average can be readily impacted by the determination of a small number of 'legacy' applications. The improving resource availability has allowed the focus of the DM Service is to move from addressing the most urgent applications to also addressing the wider backlog of application casework. Increasing output does however mean that a higher volume of 'legacy' applications will be determined with significant deteriment to average time measures as is seen with the deterioration of performance during FQ3 & FQ4 2022/23 and FQ1 2023/24. In order to provide some context additional information is provided that demsonstrates the effect of removing older applications from considerations to provide a truer picture of the time taken to deliver a larger proportion of casework. The bar graph provides this breakdown in a format which shows the increasing volume of older applications currently being determined but also confirms that a significant proportion of output is still undertaken in a timely manner.