

# Appendix 4 - 2022/23 Q4

## DEPUTY LEADER, DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION, HOUSING, HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY

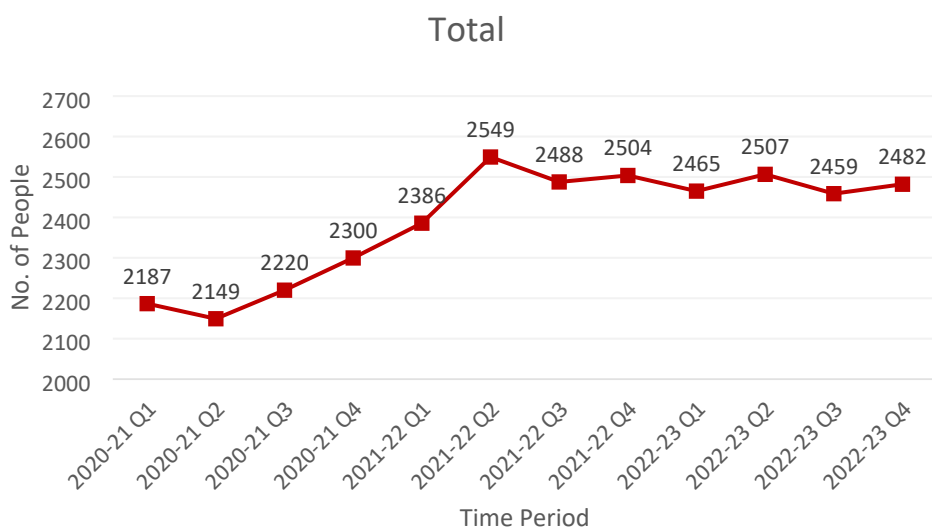
**Cabinet Member:** Councillor Ian Stephens

**Portfolio Responsibilities:**

- ICT Contracts
- Applications Development
- Digital Service
- Software Development
- Compliance and Infrastructure
- Desktop Support
- Telecommunications
- Homelessness
- Rough Sleeping
- Housing Related Support
- Housing Renewal and Enforcement
- Disabled Facilities Grant

### Performance Measures

#### Average number of people on housing register per month in each of the bands



**Aim:** Reduction in the number of people on each band of the housing register at month end

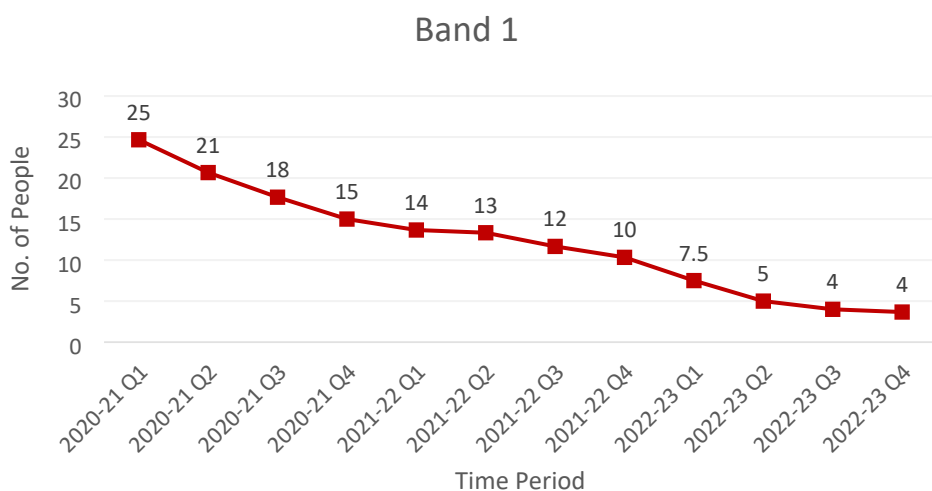
**UN Sustainable Development Goal:** 11

**Most Recent Status:** March 2023

**RED**

**Previous Status:** December 2022

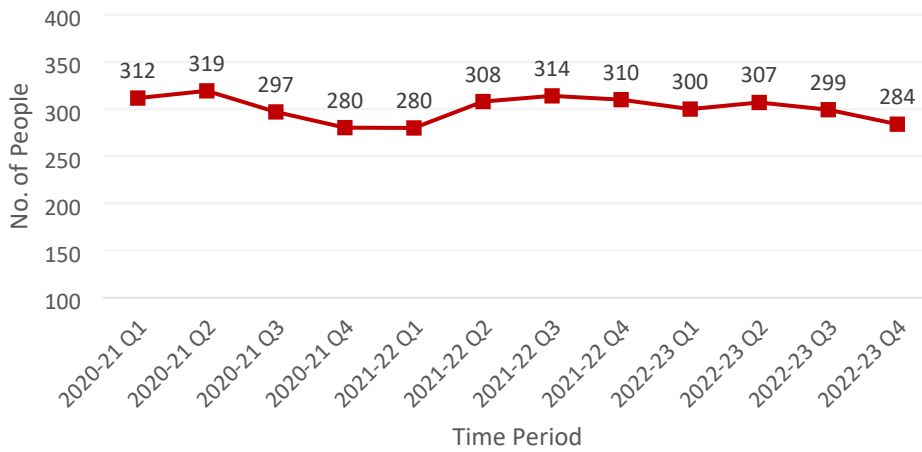
**RED**



Band 1 of the housing register includes those who meet the following criteria

- Urgent medical / welfare issues
- Multiples of Band 2

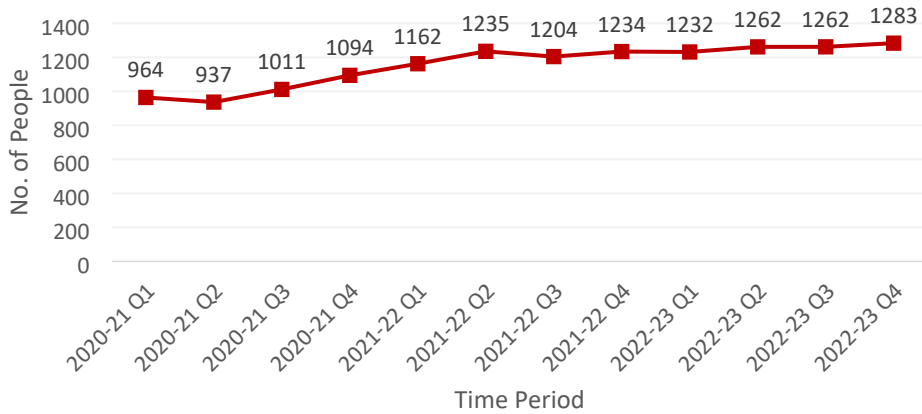
### Band 2



Band 2 of the housing register includes those who meet the following criteria

- Severe overcrowding (at least 2 bedrooms)
- Severe under-occupation (social housing tenants resident on the island)
- Applicants identified as being ready for 'move-on' accommodation
- Social housing tenants on the island vacating disable adapted accommodation

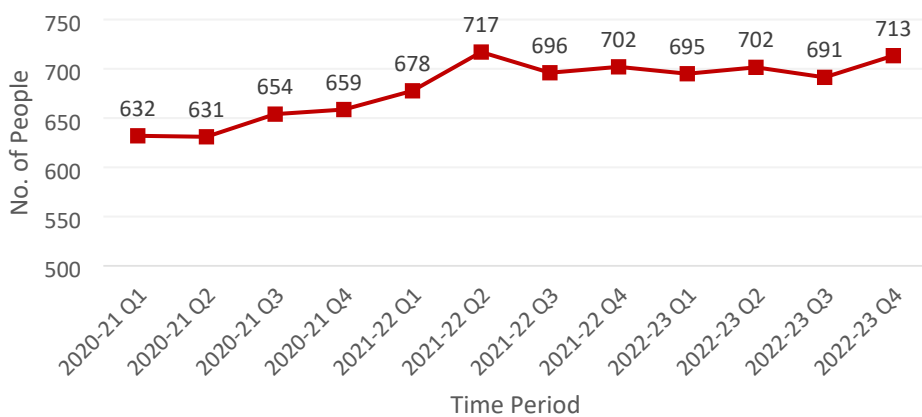
### Band 3



Band 3 of the housing register includes those who meet the following criteria

- Multiples of Band 4

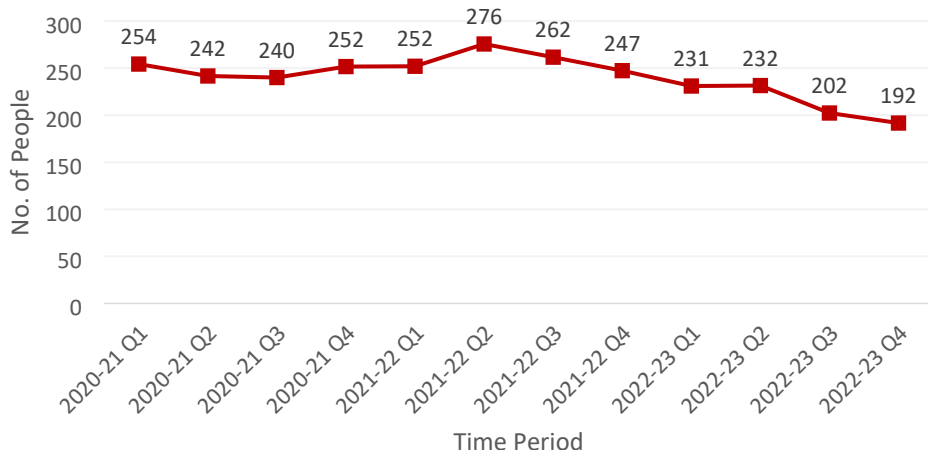
### Band 4



Band 4 of the housing register includes those who meet the following criteria

- Homeless applicants
- Significant medical / welfare issues
- Hazardous property condition as defined by the Housing Renewal team
- Lacking or sharing amenities
- Households within insecure accommodation
- Minor overcrowding (1 bedroom)
- Minor under-occupation (private tenants or owner occupiers resident on the island)

### Band 5

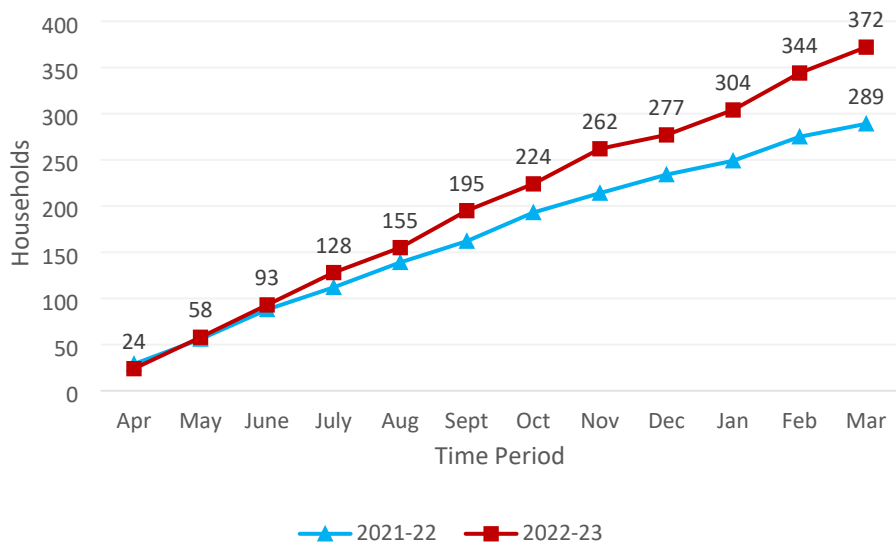


Band 5 of the housing register includes those who meet the following criteria

- Households with secure accommodation and no other housing need

- Data from Island Homefinder in quarter 4 showed a decrease in the number of people on the housing register compared to the same period last year (2,482 in Q3 2022-23 and 2,504 in Q4 2021/22). Those on band 1 of the register (urgent medical/welfare issues) have continued to drop throughout the year to an average of 4 people over the quarter.
- Band 2 has also seen a drop of 26 since the same period last year, from an average of 310 in Q4 2021/22 to an average 284 in Q4 2022/23.
- The highest proportion of people on the Housing register is consistently within band 3.
- Applications are assessed and placed in one of five bands according to their housing needs. Within each band applications will be placed in priority date order, with the application with the oldest date having the highest priority. The date that is normally used is the date the housing need is assessed. Where circumstances change and moves between bandings occur, the priority date will be changed to the date when the housing need was re-assessed.

### Number of households prevented from becoming homeless



**Aim:** Not Applicable

**UN Sustainable Development Goal:** 1

**Most Recent Status:** March 2023

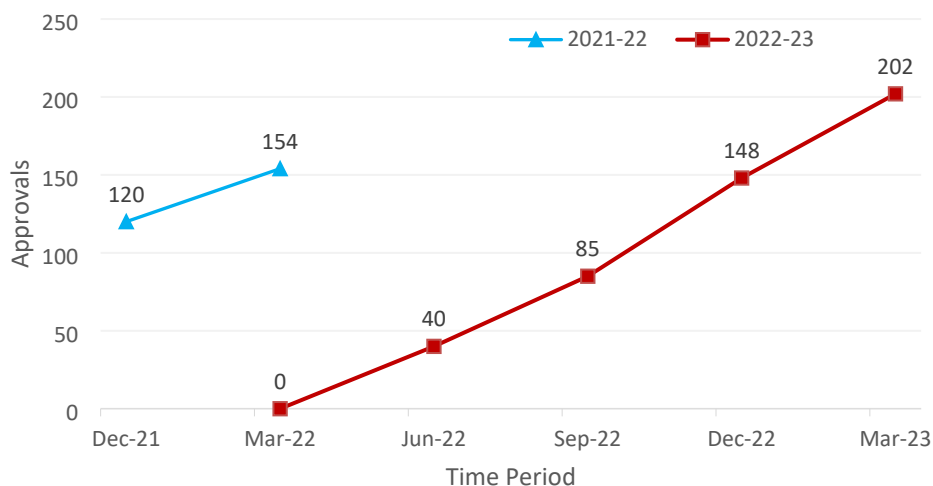
**Monitoring Measure Only**

**Previous Status:** December 2022

**Monitoring Measure Only**

- Homeless preventions have brought the total for March 23 higher than at the same time in the previous year.
- This remains a very difficult ongoing market. Homeless acceptances continue to be above previous years due to the pressures on the service.
- The number of rough sleepers has doubled from 8 in March 2022 to 16 in March 2023, however, this is a significant drop from the 21 in January this year. The team are working hard to continue to reduce this number.
- The number of households in Bed and Breakfast accommodation and those families with children remains on a par with this time last year which reflects the ongoing pressures on the service. It should be noted that the number of children in Bed and Breakfast accommodation for over 6 weeks remains at 0.

### Number & value of Disabled Facility Grants Approved



**Aim:** Not Applicable

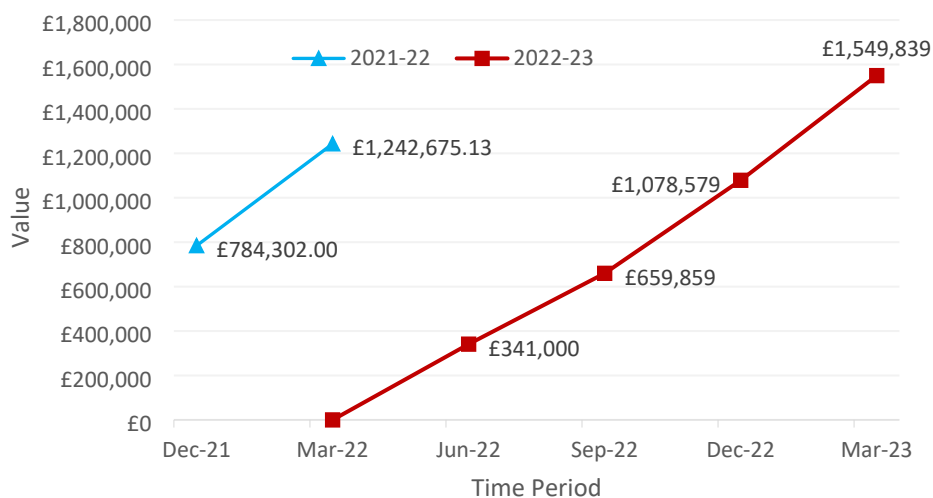
**UN Sustainable Development Goal:** 11

**Most Recent Status:** March 2023

**Monitoring Measure Only**

**Previous Status:** December 2022

**Monitoring Measure Only**



- During quarter 4, 54 grants were approved, bringing the total for the year to 202, compared to 154 at the same time last year. This brings the total value of approvals to £1,549,839 for the year so far, compared to £1,242,675 at the same time last year.
- As of the end of quarter 4, 164 grants have been completed at a value of £1,516,853.

### Number and percentage of housing stock that is considered long term empty

Empty Period	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
2 to 5 years	94	72	77	74
5 to 10 years	28	28	20	22
Over 10 years	0	28	10	10
Under structural repair	0	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>108</b>

- These figures are calculated from council tax data.
- Data from previous tax years may be incomplete.

- Of approximately 72,900 residential properties on the island (including second homes and holiday lets), at the end of March 2023, 0.1 percent of these have been empty for more than two years.
- From a total of 122 properties empty for more than 2 years in 2019/20, this figure has dropped to 106 at the end of 2022/23.

## **Service Updates - Key Aspirations and Ongoing Business**

### **The following activity supports UN Sustainable Development Goal 1:**

The Empty Property Strategy is being updated and will include a review of the current data and an action plan to ensure that issues are addressed.

Communication continues with registered providers around an affordable housing pipeline to understand the number of planned future builds that the providers are aiming to complete. Registered providers continue to be supported in their delivery, such as the opportunity for development on the Brownfield Land Release Fund sites.

Brownfield sites that form part of the One Public Estate continue to be progressed and a new bid has been submitted for 3 new sites to be put onto the programme. Regen is also working on the transfer of 9 flats to the council, in lieu of receipt for the commercial project at Shanklin Spa. Works are in progress at Ryde Aspire to build 5 new flats in their existing building with the council providing a Community Housing Grant. In addition, a Community Housing Manager is assisting Yarmouth Town Council in an Asset of Community Value Bid, this is for community housing on site of the former primary school, this is via the Department of Education. John Prickett of Community Action Isle of Wight attended a Yarmouth stakeholder meeting.

The Acquisition Strategy is currently being drafted and is scheduled to be reported on at the Housing Programme Officers Board and Housing Members Board with report to cabinet following in July 2023.

### **The following activity supports UN Sustainable Development Goal 3:**

A waiting list is still in place for disabled grant assistance. A priority system ensures that urgent support is actioned as soon as possible. The list has been reduced significantly, however demand is at its highest ever levels, with a commitment value of £4 million.

New draft legislation concerning the private rented sector is awaited, in the meantime regulatory and enforcement work continues as business as usual.

The Ecoflex statement of intent has been approved and now awaits final signature. Once completed the scheme will be implemented on the Island.

### **The following activity supports UN Sustainable Development Goal 9:**

Support for Wightfibre continues, with engagement and commissioning of legal services to resolve wayleave issues. Legal conversations continue but with a resolution due shortly. Regular updates regarding the progress of their commercial investment with full fibre continue to take place.

### **The following activity supports UN Sustainable Development Goal 16:**

All content has now been migrated over to the council's new website, enabling the decommissioning of the old site to take place. The project is now in formal stages of closedown and establishment of on-going maintenance and an improvement programme are being added to business-as-usual arrangements.

## **Strategic Risks**

N/A