

Appendix 6 – 2023/24 Q1

PLANNING, COASTAL PROTECTION AND FLOODING

Cabinet Member: Councillor Paul Fuller

Portfolio Responsibilities:

- Island Planning Strategy
- Local Development Framework
- Planning Applications
- Planning Appeals
- Planning Enforcement
- Trees and Landscape Protection
- Building Control and Inspection
- Coastal Management
- Flood Policy and LLFA
- Town, Parish & Community Council Liaison

Performance Measures

Number of major planning applications received

Aim: Not applicable

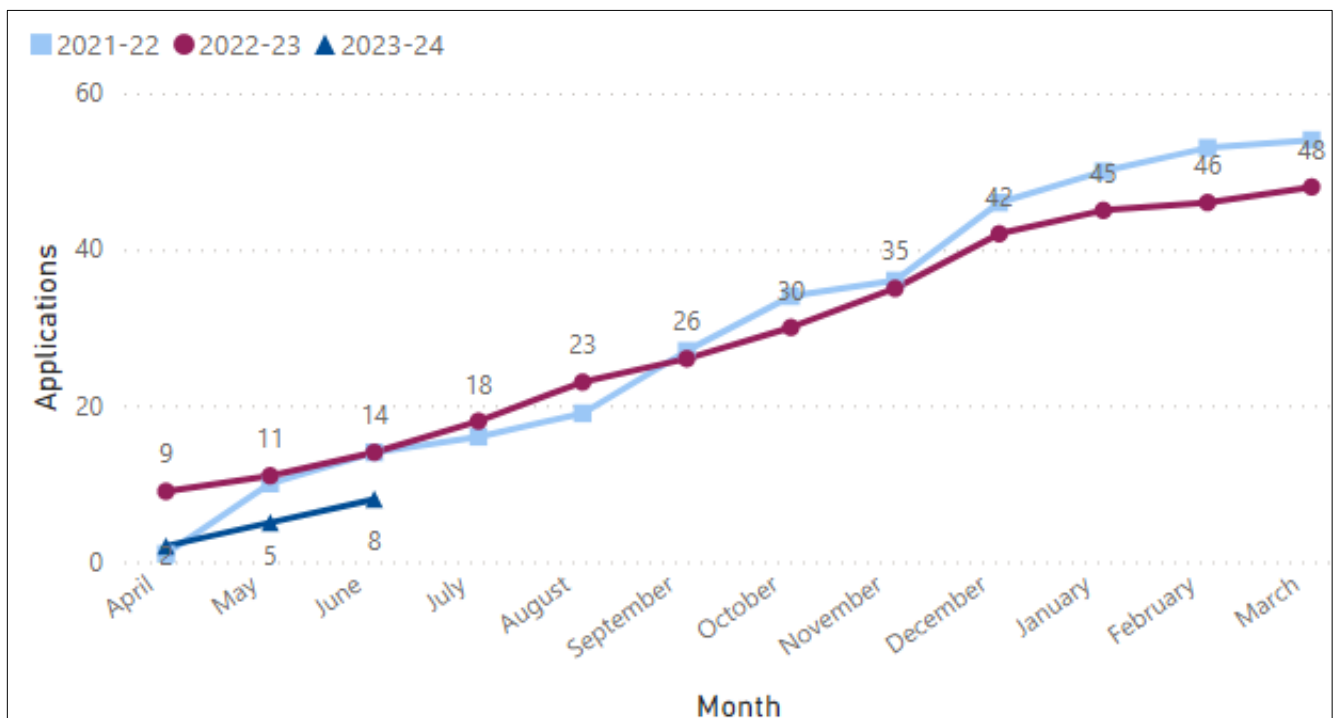
UN Sustainable Development Goal: 12

Most Recent Status: June 2023

Monitoring Measure

Previous Status: March 2023

Monitoring Measure



- We have received fewer major applications up to the end of June, compared to the same time last year (8 in 2023/24 compared to 14 in 2022/23).
- This is in line with the national trend showing a reduction in submissions.

Planning applications dealt with in timescales, including those that do not have a mutually agreed timescale

- The percentage of planning application decisions issued in time, remained consistent over quarter 1 with an average 93.6 percent.
- Of the 309 decisions issued over the quarter, only 18 were out of time (5.8 percent)

	Percentage of decisions issued in time	Total number of decisions issued	Total number of decisions issued in time	Total number of decisions issued within agreed extension	Decisions out of time
Apr-23	94	84	58	21	5
May-23	93	106	63	36	7
Jun-23	94	109	69	34	6

Percentage of all planning applications processed within agreed timescales

Aim: The percentage of planning applications processed within agreed timescales is at/above 95 percent.

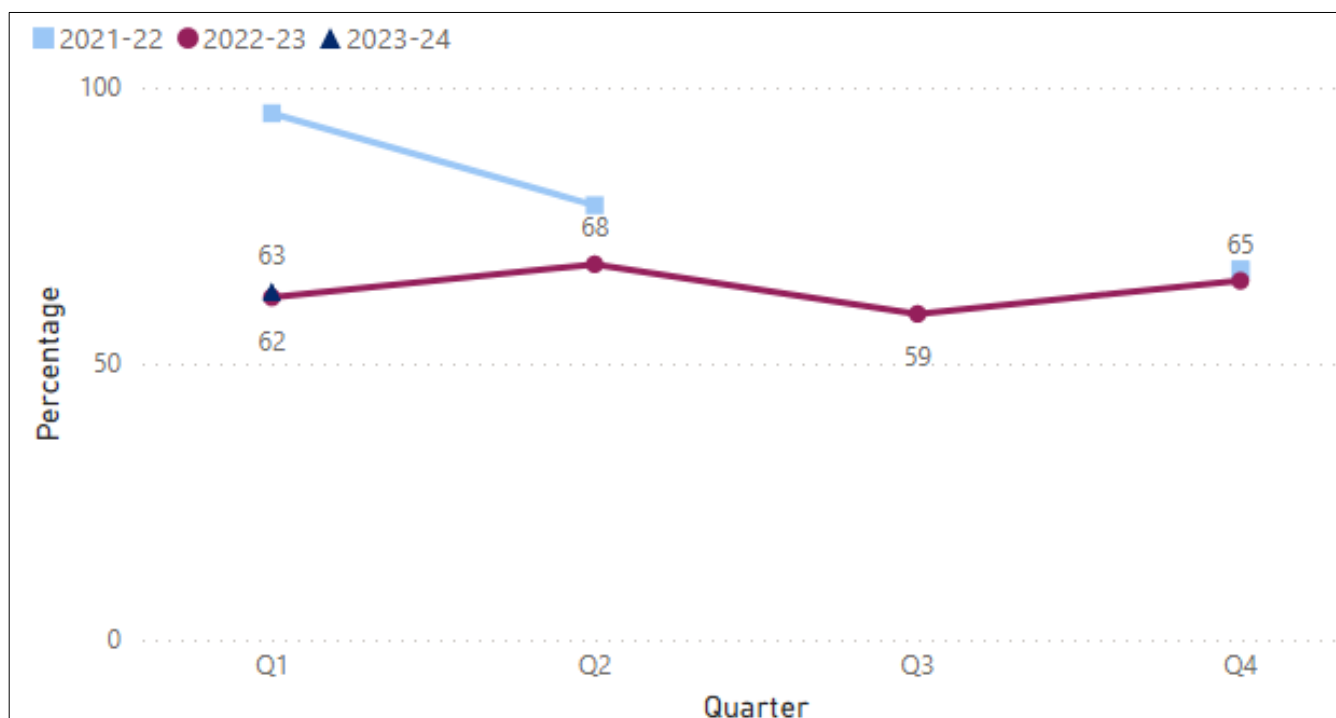
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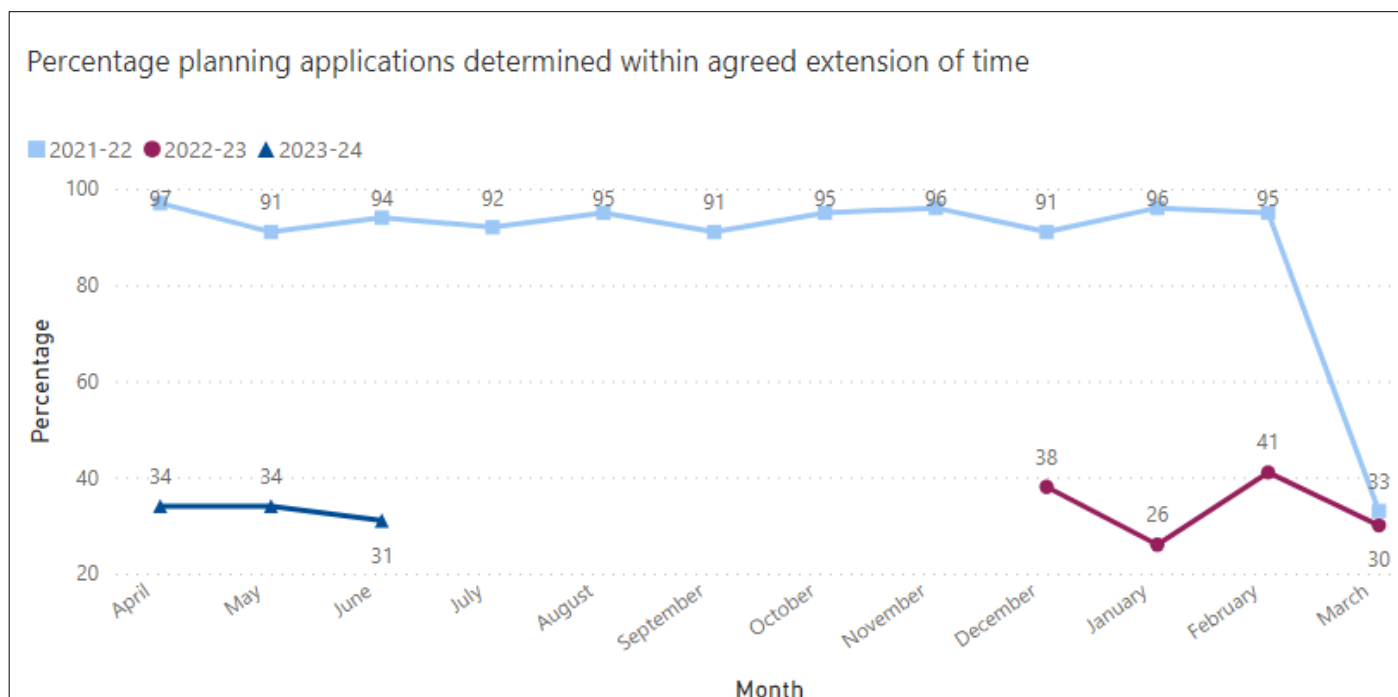
- Please note, this graph does not include agreed upon extensions of time, which affects the percentage considered as 'on-time'.
- The IWC target of applications is 95 percent, however we are within minimum government thresholds before intervention (60 percent for major and 70 percent for non-major over a two-year rolling period).

Percentage of planning applications determined within agreed extension of time

Aim: Not applicable

UN Sustainable Development Goal: 12

Most Recent Status: June 2023	Monitoring Measure
Previous Status: March 2023	Monitoring Measure



- The percentage of applications determined within the agreed extension of time has remained steady over quarter 1 but remains lower than 2021-22 figures.

Service Updates - Key Aspirations and Ongoing Business

The following activity supports UN Sustainable Development Goal 9:

A verbal update from the Leader was provided at a Full Council meeting in May 2023, giving the Cabinet’s position on taking the draft Island Planning Strategy forward.

The approach agreed by Cabinet was to await the revisions to national planning policy and guidance, following the Government’s consultation and statements on the matter.

The revisions to national planning policy and guidance which the Government had advised would be published in the ‘spring’ of 2023 are still awaited. The indication within the trade, which is yet to be confirmed by Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC), is that these changes are unlikely to happen until the end of 2023 and that other factors may further influence the timescales (such as party conference season and the ongoing deliberation with the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill, given that there are significant amendments tabled).

Progress against the planning department improvement action plan was reported to the Policy & Scrutiny Committee for Neighbourhoods and Regeneration in advance of its July meeting.

	Interventions for 22/23	Completed
Progressing the local plan	4	2
Improving our pre-application advice offer	9	3

Improving our Development Management function	5	0
Improving our Enforcement function	9	7
Improving trust, learning and customer service	8	8

Significant progress was made against the interventions programmed in 22/23 (some of which spilled into quarter 1 of 23/24) in the Improving our Enforcement function workstream, notably the adoption of a new Enforcement Strategy by Cabinet in May and its implementation.

A draft new Statement of Community (SCI) was published for consultation (although there is no statutory requirement to do so) on 30 June and will run until 4 August 2023. Following any subsequent changes, the SCI will be brought into force at the earliest opportunity.

A customer survey has been prepared during quarter 1 and is planned to be launched on 18 July.

At its meeting on 26 June the Planning Services Improvement Steering Group resolved to prioritise the Improving our pre-application advice offer and Improving our Development Management function workstreams as priorities for 23/24.

Strategic Risks

Failure of coastal defences (where the policy is to “hold the line”) resulting in high risk to people, property, infrastructure and land, significant impact on communities and the council finances. The Isle of Wight Council has a vested responsibility for controlling coastal erosion under the Coast Protection Act 1949.

Assigned to: Director of Neighbourhoods

Inherent score	Target score	Current score (June 23)
16 VERY HIGH	13 HIGH	13 HIGH
Previous scores		
Mar 23	Dec 22	Sep 22
15 VERY HIGH	N/A	N/A
Reduction in risk score		