



## PEOPLE, COMMUNITIES AND PLACES

### Planning Performance Statistics, 2018/19, Midyear

This report presents the latest summary statistics on planning application decision-making and timescales for April to September 2018 (Quarters 1 and 2), as well as historic data going back to quarter one of 2014/15. It is based on data collected by the Scottish Government from Local and Planning Authorities as part of the Planning Performance Framework (introduced in 2012).

#### Applications for Local Developments (excludes legacy cases)

There were 13,391 local development applications subject to average time calculations in the first six months of 2018/19, 425 fewer than the equivalent period in the previous year. The average decision time for these local development applications was 8.9 weeks, the same as in the equivalent period in the previous year.

The average decision time for the 6,796 local development applications decided in quarter one was 8.9 weeks. In quarter two 6,595 applications had an average decision time of 8.8 weeks, matching the quickest time for any previous quarter.

Chart 1: Applications for Local Developments (excluding legacy cases)



In addition a number of applications were concluded that were subject to separate processing agreements, these are not included in average time calculations. In quarter one of 2018/19 there were 537 local development applications with processing agreements, 72.6% of these applications met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. In quarter two there were 514, 77.0% meeting the agreed timescales.

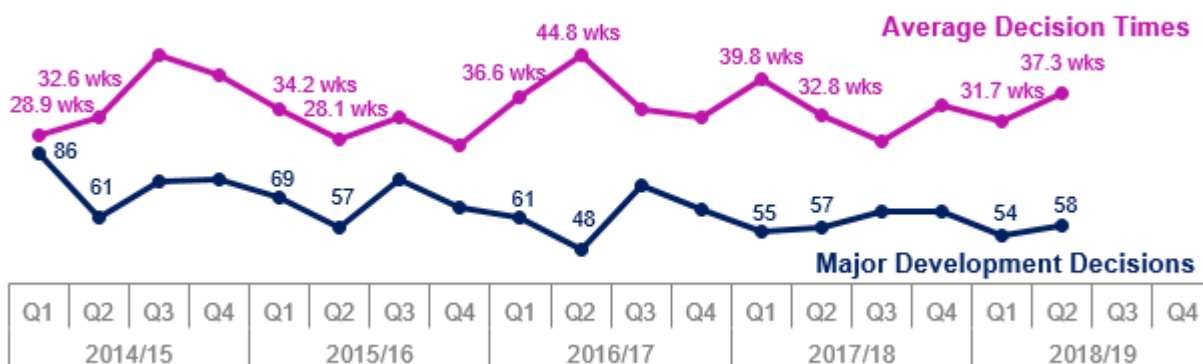
There were also three Local Development pre 3rd August 2009 legacy cases concluded. Further details about legacy cases can be seen in [Section 10](#).

## Applications for Major Developments (excludes legacy cases)

There were 112 major development applications subject to average time calculations in the first six months of 2018/19, the same as the equivalent period in the previous year. The average decision time for these 112 major development applications was 34.6 weeks, 1.6 weeks quicker than the 36.2 weeks for the equivalent period in the previous year.

The average decision time for 54 major development applications concluded in quarter one was 31.7 weeks. In quarter two 58 major development applications had an average decision time of 37.3 weeks.

**Chart 2: Applications for Major Developments (excluding legacy cases)**



The average decision time figures of 31.7 and 37.3 weeks for quarters one and two have been influenced by a number of lengthier decision times, including 18 decision times of longer than a year – five in quarter one and 13 in quarter two. Three of the five in quarter one and three of the 13 in quarter two had decision times of longer than two years. The longest decision time in quarter one was 4.5 years.

Further information on the distribution of decision times for major development applications is given in [Annex A](#).

In addition, a number of applications were concluded that were subject to separate processing agreements. These are not included in average decision time calculations. In quarter one of 2018/19 there were 26 major development applications with processing agreements, 61.5% of these applications met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. In quarter two there were 35, 77.1% meeting the agreed timescales.

In quarter one major applications with processing agreements accounted for almost a third (26 of 80) of all the decisions made for major developments. In quarter two this increased to 38%, 35 of 93 major applications.

There were also two Major Development pre 3rd August 2009 legacy cases concluded. Further details about legacy cases can be seen in [Section 10](#).

## Contents

Applications for Local Developments (excludes legacy cases) .....	1
Applications for Major Developments (excludes legacy cases) .....	2
<b>1. Introduction</b> .....	<b>4</b>
1.1 Background to data collection .....	4
1.2 Legacy cases .....	4
1.3 Detailed tables of results .....	4
1.4 Categories of planning applications .....	4
1.5 Calculation of decision times .....	5
1.6 Stopping the Clock .....	5
1.7 Revisions .....	6
<b>2. Local Developments</b> .....	<b>7</b>
2.1. All Local Developments .....	7
2.2. Local (Non Householder) Developments .....	9
2.3. Householder Developments .....	11
2.4. Local Housing Developments .....	12
2.5. Local Business and Industry Developments .....	14
2.6. Local Other Developments .....	15
<b>3. Major Developments</b> .....	<b>17</b>
3.1. All Major Developments .....	18
3.2. Major Housing Developments .....	19
3.3. Major Business and Industry .....	21
3.4. Major Other Developments .....	22
<b>4. Processing Agreements</b> .....	<b>24</b>
<b>5. Legal Agreements</b> .....	<b>25</b>
5.1 Local developments with Legal Agreements .....	25
5.2 Major developments with Legal Agreements .....	26
<b>6. Approval Rates</b> .....	<b>27</b>
<b>7. Delegation Rates</b> .....	<b>27</b>
<b>8. Appeals and Local Reviews</b> .....	<b>28</b>
<b>9. Clock Stops</b> .....	<b>28</b>
<b>10. Legacy Cases</b> .....	<b>31</b>
<b>Annex A – Distribution of Decision Times for Major Applications</b> .....	<b>32</b>

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Background to data collection

Planning authority performance data is a statistical collection undertaken to establish the number of planning applications determined by Scottish planning authorities, and their performance in processing them. The Scottish Government Communities Analysis Division collects quarterly data from all 32 Local Authorities and the two Planning Authorities (Cairngorms National Park and Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park) on the detail of planning decisions and timescales.

## 1.2 Legacy cases

On 3rd August 2009 substantial changes to the statutory development management system, relating to the handling of planning applications, came into effect across the whole of Scotland. A few legacy cases that were validated pre 3rd August 2009 can badly skew results and therefore the analysis in Sections 2 to 5 covers applications validated in the current planning system post 3rd August 2009. For applications decided prior to quarter one 2017/18, where appropriate, figures are provided for both post 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2009 applications and all applications including legacy cases. From quarter one 2017/18, because of the limited number of legacy cases still being processed, figures are only shown for applications validated post 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2009.

Analysis of the limited number of decided legacy cases is provided separately in [Section 10](#).

## 1.3 Detailed tables of results

Additional detailed excel tables of results as well as a copy of this summary, along with results for previous quarters and annual results for previous years are available in the Planning Authority Performance Statistics Section on the Planning Publications page of the Scottish Government's website at:

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Planning/Publications>.

## 1.4 Categories of planning applications

For the purpose of planning applications, developments are put into one of three categories: local, major or national. The different types allow councils to treat developments in a way which is suited to their size, complexity and the issues they are likely to raise.

Local developments include applications for changes to individual houses and smaller developments for new housing as well as applications covering areas of development such as minerals, business & industry, waste management, electricity generation, freshwater fish farming, marine finfish farming, marine shellfish farming, telecommunications, Approval of Matters Specified in Conditions (AMSCs<sup>1</sup>) and other developments. Most applications for planning permission will be for local developments.

---

<sup>1</sup> Applications for Approval of Matters Specified in Conditions (AMSCs) relate to conditions attached to planning permission in principle requiring the further approval, consent or agreement of the planning authority for any detailed aspect of the development.

Major developments include applications for 50 or more homes, as well as certain waste, water, transport and energy-related developments, larger retail developments, and other types of major developments. Classification between local and major developments depends on the particular development type. For example, housing developments are classed as major when the application is for 50 or more dwellings or for a site that exceeds two hectares, whereas electricity generation is classed as major when the capacity of the generating station is or exceeds 20 megawatts. Typically there are only a small number of decisions made for major developments each quarter and therefore average decision times are likely to be volatile.

The sub category “other developments”, used for both major and local developments, includes any developments not falling wholly within any of the specific categories of development for minerals, housing, business & industry, waste management, electricity generation, fish farming and AMSCs. It includes, but is not limited to, retail, leisure and entertainment, education, healthcare, community facilities, transport interchanges, water and drainage developments and projects. It can also include mixed use projects.

National developments are mainly large public works (for example, the regeneration of the former Ravenscraig steelworks and the redevelopment of the Dundee Waterfront) and are identified in the National Planning Framework (<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0045/00453683.pdf>).

National Developments are not included in the planning performance statistics analysed in this publication.

Details for the classification of all development types can be found here: <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/Doc/278390/0083657.pdf>.

## **1.5 Calculation of decision times**

The average decision time in weeks is calculated in days from the date of validation<sup>2</sup> to the date the decision is issued. The average weeks are then calculated by dividing the number of days by seven.

For further explanation of planning performance methodology please refer to [Planning Performance Technical Notes](#).

Some of the changes over time seen in the decision times may be partly due to improvements in recording of periods of inaction by the applicant. This is referred to as “stopping the clock”. See [Section 9](#) for further details.

## **1.6 Stopping the Clock**

In some cases it is appropriate to remove a length of time from the total decision time. We have called this process of removing a specific length of time “stopping the clock”. Stopping the clock is used where there has been a lengthy delay caused by the applicant or external consultees, outwith the planning authority’s control that

---

<sup>2</sup> The validation date, from which the time period for determination runs, is the date when the final piece of information for an application is received from the applicant.

has halted progress with an application. It is for individual authorities to decide what they consider 'lengthy' on a case by case basis. This should not be used for every application; it is about recording the data in a way which produces more accurate and relevant performance statistics that would otherwise have been skewed by extreme cases of delay outwith the planning authority's control.

Details of clock stops can be seen in [Section 9](#).

## **1.7 Revisions**

The revisions policy for planning performance statistics has been developed in accordance with the UK Statistics Authority Code of practice for Official Statistics and further details are available at:

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Planning/Revisions>.

## 2. Local Developments

**Local developments include applications for changes to individual houses and smaller developments for new housing as well as applications covering areas of development such as minerals, business & industry, waste management, electricity generation, freshwater fish farming, marine finfish farming, marine shellfish farming, telecommunications, Approval of Matters Specified in Conditions (AMSCs) and other developments.**

This section presents quarterly information on average timescales across all local developments, along with separate figures for the key categories of householder, housing, business and industry and other developments. Information on other categories of development is reported on an annual rather than quarterly basis.

Figures for all applications, which include legacy cases validated before 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2009, are shown up to the end of 2016/17. From quarter one 2017/18, because of the limited number of legacy cases still being processed, figures are only shown for applications validated post 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2009.

### 2.1. All Local Developments

There were 13,391 local development applications subject to average time calculations in the first six months of 2018/19, 425 fewer than in the equivalent period in 2017/18. The average decision time for these local development applications was 8.9 weeks, the same as for the equivalent period in 2017/18.

There were 6,796 applications (excluding legacy cases) for local developments decided in quarter one of 2018/19, 171 (2.5%) fewer than the 6,967 decisions in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 8.9 weeks, slightly slower than the 8.8 weeks for the same quarter in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 75.5%, down from the corresponding quarter one figure of 77.6% in the previous year ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Tables 3 & 4](#)).

There were 6,595 applications (excluding legacy cases) for local developments decided in quarter two of 2018/19, 254 (3.7%) fewer than the 6,849 decisions in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 8.8 weeks, quicker by just over a day than the 9.0 weeks for the same quarter in the previous year and equalling the quickest average decision time for any previous quarter. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 75.7%, up from the corresponding quarter two figure of 74.3% in the previous year ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Tables 3 & 4](#)).

In addition a number of applications were concluded that were subject to separate processing agreements, these are not included in average time calculations. In quarter one of 2018/19 there were 537 local development applications with processing agreements, 72.6% of these applications met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. In quarter two there were 514, 77.0% meeting the agreed timescales ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 1](#)).

In quarter one local applications with processing agreements accounted for 7.3% of the decisions made for local developments, in quarter two they accounted for 7.2%.

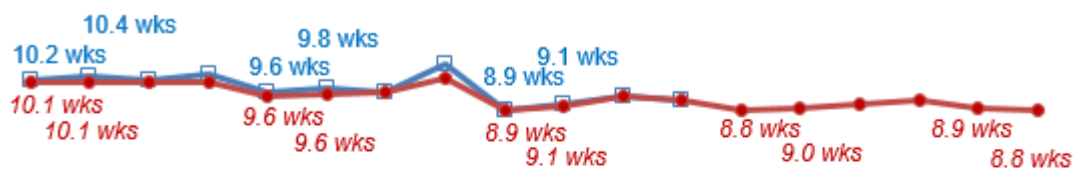
**Chart 3: All Local Developments: Number of decisions**



**All Local Development Decisions**  
**Post 3 August 2009 Local Development Decisions**

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

**Chart 4: All Local Developments: Average decision time (weeks)**

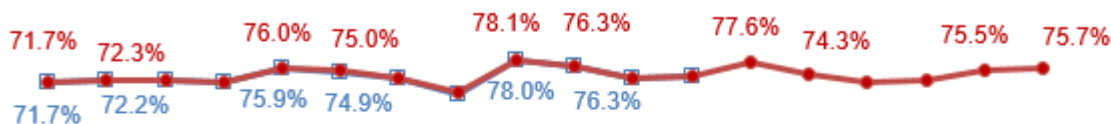


**All Local Developments Average Decision Time**  
**Post 3 August 2009 Local Developments Average Decision Time**

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

The 2015/16 Q4 All Applications figure was revised in January 2018

**Chart 5: All Local Developments: Percentage of decisions within two months**



**Post 3 August 2009 Local Developments - Percentage of decisions within 2 months**  
**All Local Developments - Percentage of decisions within 2 months**

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

There were also three Local Development pre 3rd August 2009 legacy cases concluded. Further details about legacy cases can be seen in [Section 10](#).

Highland made the most decisions on local developments in both quarter one and quarter two. In quarter one 675 local development applications were concluded, four applications had a processing agreement and the remaining 671 had an average decision time of 8.8 weeks. 627 local development applications were concluded in quarter two, five with a processing agreement and the remaining 622 had an average decision time of 9.8 weeks ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Tables 1 & 3](#)).



## 2.2. Local (Non Householder) Developments

**This can include applications for smaller developments for new housing as well as applications covering areas of development such as minerals, business & industry, waste management, electricity generation, freshwater fish farming, marine finfish farming, marine shellfish farming, telecommunications, Approval of Matters Specified in Conditions (AMSCs) and other developments.**

There were 6,634 local non householder developments decided during the first six months of 2018/19, 182 fewer than the equivalent period in the previous year. The average decision time for these 6,634 local (non householder) development applications was 10.6 weeks, slightly quicker than the 10.7 weeks for the equivalent period in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 64.9%, up from 62.7% for the corresponding six month period in the previous year.

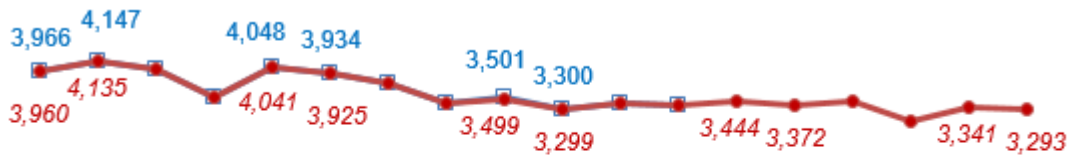
There were 3,341 applications (excluding legacy cases) for local non householder developments decided in quarter one of 2018/19, 103 (3.0%) fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 10.7 weeks, the same as quarter one in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 64.6%, down slightly from the corresponding quarter one figure of 64.8% in the previous year ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 5](#)).

There were 3,293 applications (excluding legacy cases) for local non householder developments decided in quarter two of 2018/19, 79 (2.3%) fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 10.4 weeks, quicker by almost three days than the same quarter in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 65.2%, up from the corresponding quarter two figure of 60.6% in the previous year ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 5](#)).

In addition a number of applications were concluded that were subject to separate processing agreements, these are not included in average time calculations. In quarter one of 2018/19 there were 406 local non householder development applications with processing agreements, 72.2% (293) of these applications met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. In quarter two there were 380, 75.3% (286) meeting the agreed timescales.

There were also three Local Non Householder Development pre 3rd August 2009 legacy cases concluded. Further details about legacy cases can be seen in [Section 10](#).

**Chart 6: Local Developments (Non Householder): Number of decisions**



All Local Development (Non Householder) Decisions

Post 3 August 2009 Local Development (Non Householder) Decisions

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

**Chart 7: Local Developments (Non Householder): Average decision time (weeks)**

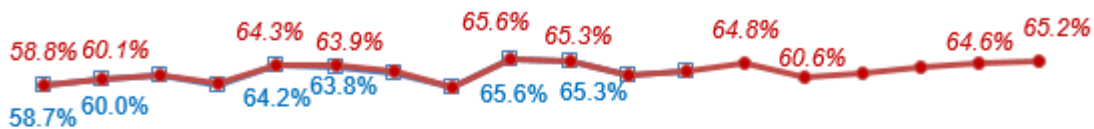


All Local Developments (Non Householder) Average Decision Time

Post 3 August 2009 Local Developments (Non Householder) Average Decision Time

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

**Chart 8: Local Developments (Non Householder): Percentage of decisions within two months**



Post 3 August 2009 Local Developments (Non Householder) - Percentage of decisions within 2 months

All Local Developments (Non Householder) - Percentage of decisions within 2 months

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

## 2.3. Householder Developments

These include all applications for development in the curtilage of a residential property which are not change of use, for example: extensions, alterations to garages, swimming pools, walls, fences, driveways or porches.

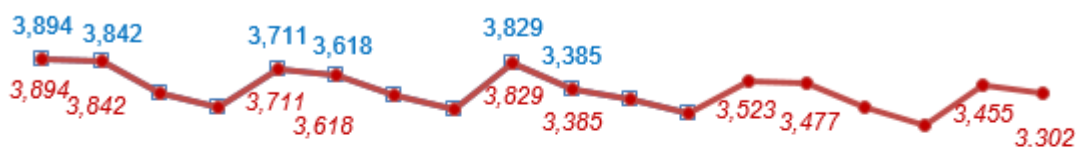
There were 6,757 householder developments decided during the first six months of 2018/19, 243 fewer than the equivalent period in the previous year. The average decision time for these 6,757 householder applications was 7.2 weeks, slightly slower than the 7.1 weeks for the equivalent period in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 86.0%, down from 88.9% for the corresponding six month period in the previous year.

There were 3,455 applications for householder developments decided in quarter one of 2018/19, 68 (1.9%) fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 7.2 weeks, slightly slower than the 7.0 weeks for quarter one in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 85.9%, down from the corresponding quarter one figure of 90.2% in the previous year ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 6](#)).

There were 3,302 applications for householder developments decided in quarter two of 2018/19, 175 (5.0%) fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 7.2 weeks, the same as the equivalent quarter in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 86.1%, down from the corresponding quarter two figure of 87.5% in the previous year ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 6](#)).

In addition a number of applications were concluded that were subject to separate processing agreements, these are not included in average time calculations. In quarter one of 2018/19 there were 131 householder applications with processing agreements, 74.0% (97) of these applications met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. In quarter two there were 134, 82.1% (110) meeting the agreed timescales.

**Chart 9: Householder Developments: Number of decisions**



All Householder Developments Decisions

Post 3 August 2009 Householder Developments Decisions

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

**Chart 10: Householder Developments: Average decision time (weeks)**

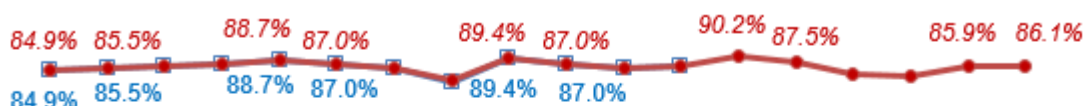


**All Householder Developments Average Decision Time**

**Post 3 August 2009 Householder Developments Average Decision Time**

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

**Chart 11: Householder Developments: Percentage of decisions within two months**



**Post 3 August 2009 Householder Developments - Percentage of decisions within 2 months**

**All Householder Developments - Percentage of decisions within 2 months**

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

## 2.4. Local Housing Developments

**Local Housing developments are those that have less than 50 dwellings and a site area that is less than 2 hectares.**

There were 2,396 local housing developments decided during the first six months of 2018/19, 51 fewer than the equivalent period in the previous year. The average decision time for these 2,396 local housing applications was 12.1 weeks, quicker by almost three days than the 12.5 weeks for the equivalent period in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 57.3%, up from 53.4% for the corresponding six month period in the previous year.

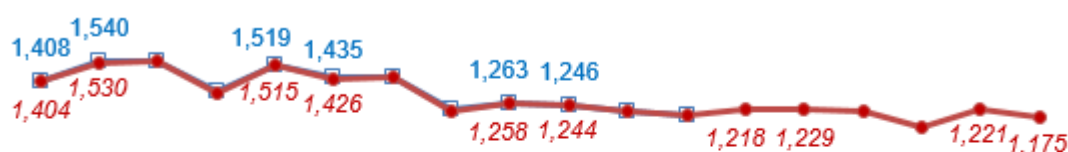
There were 1,221 applications for local housing developments decided in quarter one of 2018/19, three more than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 12.0 weeks, slightly quicker than the 12.2 weeks for quarter one in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 56.5%, up from the corresponding quarter one figure of 55.7% in the previous year ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 8](#)).

There were 1,175 applications for local housing developments decided in quarter two of 2018/19, 54 (4.4%) fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 12.1 weeks, quicker by almost five days than the 12.8 weeks for quarter two in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in

less than two months was 58.1%, up from the corresponding quarter two figure of 51.0% in the previous year ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 8](#)).

In addition a number of applications were concluded that were subject to separate processing agreements, these are not included in average time calculations. In quarter one of 2018/19 there were 150 local housing applications with processing agreements, 72.7% (109) of these applications met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. In quarter two there were 153, 85.6% (131) meeting the agreed timescales.

**Chart 12: Local Housing Developments: Number of decisions**

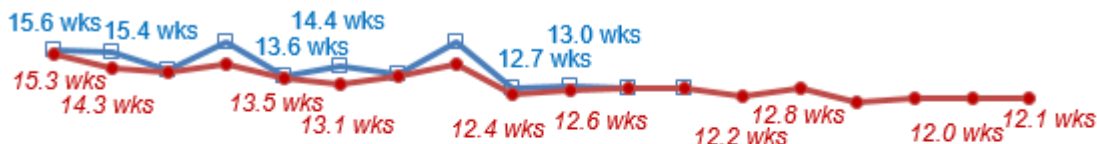


All Local Housing Development Decisions

Post 3 August 2009 Local Housing Development Decisions

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

**Chart 13: Local Housing Developments: Average decision time (weeks)**

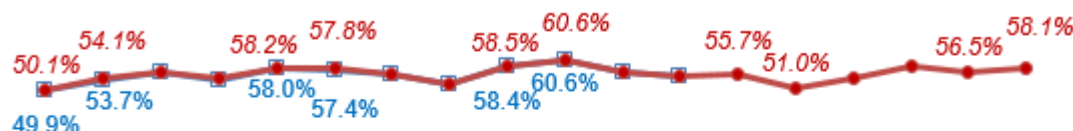


All Local Housing Developments Average Decision Time

Post 3 August 2009 Local Housing Developments Average Decision Time

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

**Chart 14: Local Housing Developments: Percentage of decisions within two months**



Post 3 August 2009 Local Housing Developments - Percentage of decisions within 2 months

All Local Housing Developments - Percentage of decisions within 2 months

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			



**Chart 16: Local Business and Industry Developments: Average decision time (weeks)**

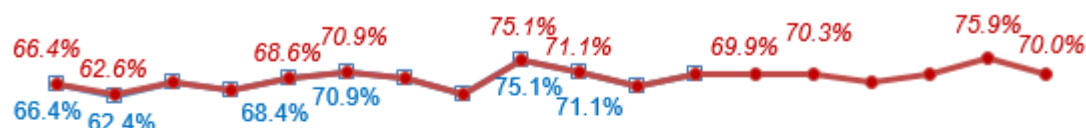


All Local Business and Industry Developments Average Decision Time

Post 3 August 2009 Local Business and Industry Developments Average Decision Time

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

**Chart 17: Local Business and Industry Developments: Percentage of decisions within two months**



Post 3 August 2009 Local Business and Industry Developments - Percentage of decisions within 2 months

All Local Business and Industry Developments - Percentage of decisions within 2 months

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

In addition a number of applications were concluded that were subject to separate processing agreements, these are not included in average time calculations. In quarter one of 2018/19 there were 27 local business and industry applications with processing agreements, 81.5% (22) of these applications met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. In quarter two there were 34, 79.4% (27) meeting the agreed timescales.

## 2.6. Local Other Developments

Other Developments are developments not falling wholly within any other single class. They include but are not limited to retail, leisure and entertainment, education, healthcare, community facilities, transport interchanges, water and drainage developments and projects. This class also covers mixed use projects.

Local Other Developments are those where the gross floor space of any building, structure or erection as a result of such development is less than 5,000 square metres and the area of the site is less than 2 hectares.

There were 3,056 local other developments decided during the first six months of 2018/19, 23 more than in the equivalent period in the previous year. The average

decision time for these 3,056 local other developments applications was 9.4 weeks, quicker by just over two days than the 9.7 weeks for the equivalent period in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 70.2%, up from 68.3% for the corresponding six month period in the previous year.

There were 1,517 applications for local other developments decided in quarter one of 2018/19, one less than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 9.5 weeks, slightly quicker than the 9.6 weeks for quarter one in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 69.7%, down slightly from the corresponding quarter one figure of 70.2% in the previous year ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 12](#)).

There were 1,539 applications for local other developments decided in quarter two of 2018/19, 24 (1.6%) more than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 9.4 weeks, quicker by just over 2 days than the 9.7 weeks for quarter two in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 70.8%, up from the corresponding quarter two figure of 66.5% in the previous year ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 12](#)).

**Chart 18: Local Other Developments: Number of decisions**



**All Local Other Developments Decisions**  
*Post 3 August 2009 Local Other Developments Decisions*

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

**Chart 19: Local Other Developments: Average decision time (weeks)**

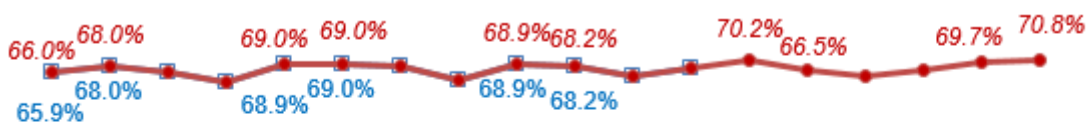


**All Local Other Developments Average Decision Time**  
*Post 3 August 2009 Local Other Developments Average Decision Time*

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			



**Chart 20: Local Other Developments: Percentage of decisions within two months**



*Post 3 August 2009 Local Other Developments - Percentage of decisions within 2 months*

*All Local Other Developments - Percentage of decisions within 2 months*

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

In addition a number of applications were concluded that were subject to separate processing agreements, these are not included in average time calculations. In quarter one of 2018/19 there were 156 local other developments applications with processing agreements, 69.2% (108) of these applications met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. In quarter two there were 141, 73.8% (104) meeting the agreed timescales.

### 3. Major Developments

**Major developments include applications for developments of 50 or more homes, as well as other applications covering areas of development such as minerals, housing, business & industry, waste management, electricity generation, freshwater fish farming, marine finfish farming, marine shellfish farming and other developments. Classification between local and major developments depends on the particular development type. For example, housing developments are classed as major when the application is for 50 or more dwellings or for a site that exceeds two hectares, whereas electricity generation is classed as major when the capacity of the generating station is or exceeds 20 megawatts.**

Details for the classification of all development types can be found here:

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/Doc/278390/0083657.pdf>

This section presents quarterly information on average timescales across all major developments, along with separate figures for the key categories of housing, business and industry and other developments. Information on other more detailed categories of major developments is reported on an annual rather than quarterly basis.

Figures for all applications, which include legacy cases validated before 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2009, are shown up to the end of 2016/17. From quarter one 2017/18, because of the limited number of legacy cases still being processed, figures are only shown for applications validated post 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2009.

The time taken to make decisions on major applications can vary greatly between individual applications so average figures based on a small number of applications can be volatile.

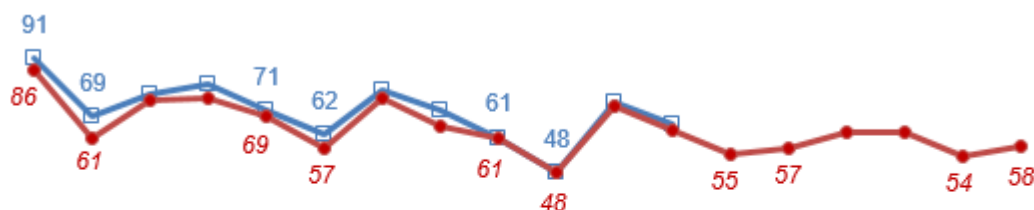
### 3.1. All Major Developments

There were 112 major development applications (excluding legacy cases) subject to average time calculations in the first six months of 2018/19, the same as in the equivalent period in 2017/18. The average decision time for these 112 major development applications was 34.6 weeks, quicker by one and a half weeks than the 36.2 weeks for the equivalent period in 2017/18.

There were 54 applications (excluding legacy cases) for major developments decided in quarter one of 2018/19, one less than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time for these 54 major development applications was 31.7 weeks, more than eight weeks quicker than the 39.8 weeks for the same quarter in the previous year ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 2](#)).

There were 58 applications (excluding legacy cases) for major developments decided in quarter two of 2018/19, one more than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time for these 58 major development applications was 37.3 weeks, four and a half weeks slower than the 32.8 weeks for the same quarter in the previous year ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 2](#)).

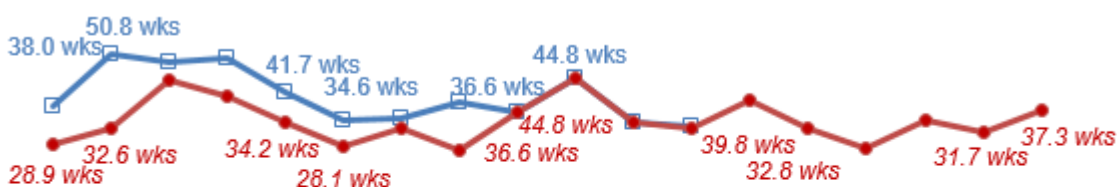
**Chart 21: All Major Developments: Number of decisions**



**All Major Developments Decisions**  
*Post 3 August 2009 Major Developments Decisions*

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4				
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

**Chart 22: All Major Developments: Average decision time (weeks)**



**All Major Developments Average Decision Time**  
*Post 3 August 2009 Major Developments Average Decision Time*

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4				
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

2015/16 Q4 All Applications figure was revised in January 2018

2016/17 Q1 and Q4 figures were revised in July 2018

2017/18 Q2 figure was revised in July 2018

The average decision time figures of 31.7 and 37.3 weeks for quarters one and two have been influenced by a number of lengthier decision times, including 18 decision times of longer than a year – five in quarter one and 13 in quarter two. Three of the 13 in quarter two had decision times of longer than two years.

Two thirds (36 of 54) of major development applications decided in quarter one were decided in a time that was quicker than the quarter one average. In quarter two just under two thirds (38 of 58) were decided in a time quicker than the average for that quarter.

Further information on the distribution of decision times for major development applications is given in [Annex A](#).

In addition a number of applications were concluded that were subject to separate processing agreements, these are not included in average time calculations. In quarter one of 2018/19 there were 26 major development applications with processing agreements, 61.5% (16) of these applications met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. In quarter two there were 35, 77.1% (27) meeting the agreed timescales ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 1](#)).

In quarter one major applications with processing agreements accounted for 32.5% of all major development decisions, in quarter two they accounted for 37.6%.

There were also two Major Development pre 3rd August 2009 legacy cases concluded. Further details about legacy cases can be seen in [Section 10](#).

Glasgow City and Highland made most decisions on major developments in the first six months of 2018/19; 15 in total. In quarter one Glasgow City concluded eight major development applications, one had a processing agreement and the remaining seven had an average decision time of 22.7 weeks. Seven major development applications were concluded by Glasgow City in quarter two, two with a processing agreement, the remaining five had an average decision time of 31.8 weeks. Highland concluded seven major development applications in quarter one, four had processing agreements and the remaining three had an average decision time of 17.2 weeks. Eight major development applications were concluded by Highland in quarter two, seven had a processing agreement and the remaining application had a decision time of 26.6 weeks ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Tables 1 & 2](#)).

### **3.2. Major Housing Developments**

**Major Housing developments are those with 50 or more dwellings or with a site area that is or exceeds 2 hectares where the predominant use is for housing.**

There were 52 major housing developments decided during the first six months of 2018/19, the same as in the equivalent period in the previous year. The average decision time for these 52 major housing applications was 37.0 weeks, quicker by almost four weeks than the 40.9 weeks for the equivalent period in the previous year.

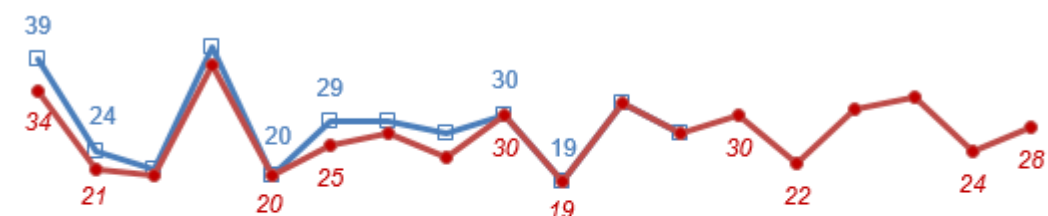
There were 24 applications for major housing developments decided in quarter one of 2018/19, six (20.0%) fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The

average decision time was 34.6 weeks, more than nine weeks quicker than the 44.2 weeks for quarter one in the previous year ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 7](#)).

There were 28 applications for major housing developments decided in quarter two of 2018/19, six (27.3%) more than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 39.0 weeks, over two weeks slower than the 36.4 weeks for quarter two in the previous year ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 7](#)).

Average figures based on a small number of applications can be volatile. In quarter one two Major Housing applications had decision times of more than one year, one taking more than four years. The average decision time of 34.6 weeks was significantly influenced by the application with a decision time of 4.5 years; the average decision time for the remaining 23 applications was 26.0 weeks. In quarter two, six Major Housing applications had decision times of more than one year while 64.3% (18 of 28) were decided in a time that was quicker than the average. For further detail on the distribution of decision times for major housing see [Annex A](#).

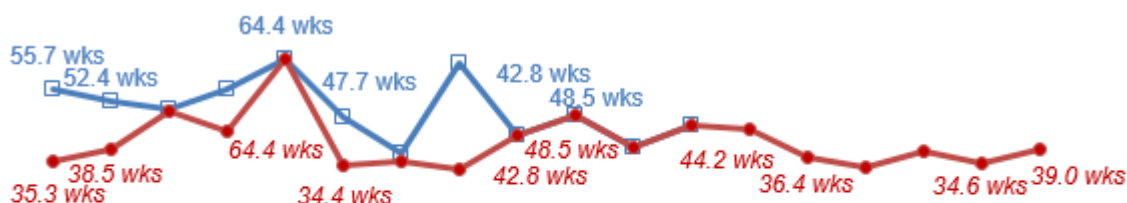
**Chart 23: Major Housing Developments: Number of decisions**



**All Major Housing Developments Decisions**  
**Post 3 August 2009 Major Housing Developments Decisions**

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

**Chart 24: Major Housing Developments: Average decision time (weeks)**



**All Major Housing Developments Average Decision Time**  
**Post 3 August 2009 Major Housing Developments Average Decision Time**

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

2015/16 Q4 All Applications figure was revised in January 2018  
2016/17 Q1 and Q4 figures were revised in July 2018

In addition a number of applications were concluded that were subject to separate processing agreements, these are not included in average time calculations. In quarter one of 2018/19 there were 14 major housing applications with processing agreements, 71.4% (10) of these applications met agreed timescales that had been

set between developers and local authorities. In quarter two there were 18, 88.9% (16) meeting the agreed timescales.

There were also two Major Housing Development pre 3rd August 2009 legacy cases concluded. Further details about legacy cases can be seen in [Section 10](#).

### 3.3. Major Business and Industry

**Business and Industry developments include construction of a building or structure for any of the following: use as an office, for research and development of products or processes, for any industrial process or for use for storage or as a distribution centre.**

**To be classed as major the gross floor space as a result of the development must exceed 10,000 square metres or the site area must exceed 2 hectares.**

There were eleven major business and industry developments decided during the first six months of 2018/19, seven more than the equivalent period in the previous year. The average decision time for these eleven major business and industry applications was 21.3 weeks, slower by just over a week than the 19.9 weeks for the equivalent period in the previous year.

There were eight applications for major business and industry developments decided in quarter one of 2018/19, twice the number decided in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 24.4 weeks, more than four weeks slower than the 19.9 weeks for quarter one in the previous year ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 9](#)).

There were three applications for major business and industry developments decided in quarter two of 2018/19. The average decision time for the three applications was 13.2 weeks. No major business and industry applications had been decided in the same quarter in the previous year. ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 9](#)).

In addition a number of applications were concluded that were subject to separate processing agreements, these are not included in average time calculations. In both quarter one and quarter two of 2018/19 there was one major business and industry application with a processing agreement which met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities.

**Chart 25: Major Business and Industry Developments: Number of decisions**



**Chart 26: Major Business and Industry Developments: Average decision time (weeks)**



There were no Major Business and Industry decisions in 2017/18 Q2 so there was no average decision time.

### 3.4. Major Other Developments

**Other developments are developments not falling wholly within any other single class. They include but are not limited to retail, leisure and entertainment, education, healthcare, community facilities, transport interchanges, water and drainage developments and projects. This class also covers mixed use projects.**

**Major Other developments are where the gross floor space of any building, structure or erection as a result of such development is or exceeds 5,000 square metres or the area of the site is or exceeds 2 hectares.**

There were 36 major other developments decided during the first six months of 2018/19, seven fewer than in the equivalent period in the previous year. The average decision time for these 36 applications was 37.7 weeks, more than four weeks slower than the 33.3 weeks for the equivalent period in the previous year.

There were 17 applications for major other developments decided in quarter one of 2018/19, the same as in the equivalent quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 34.5 weeks, almost eight weeks quicker than the 42.3 weeks for quarter one in the previous year ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 11](#)).

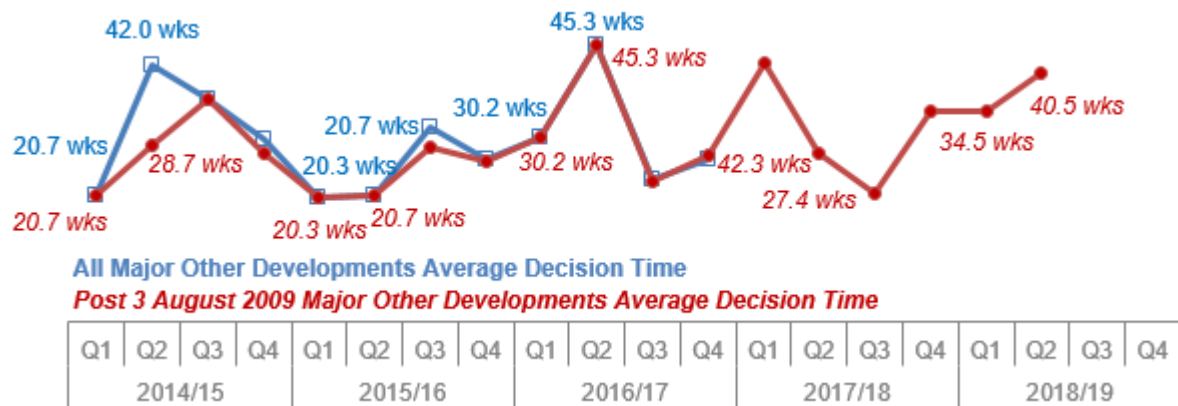
There were 19 applications for major other developments decided in quarter two of 2018/19, seven (26.9%) fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 40.5 weeks, 13 weeks slower than the 27.4 weeks for quarter two in the previous year ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 11](#)).

Average figures based on a small number of applications can be volatile. In quarter one there were two major other development applications with decision times of more than two years. The average decision time of 34.5 weeks was significantly influenced by these two applications with long decision times. The average decision time for the remaining 15 applications was 21.6 weeks. In quarter two five major other development applications had decision times of more than one year, three of these taking more than two years. For further detail on the distribution of decision times for major housing see [Annex A](#).

**Chart 27: Major Other Developments: Number of decisions**



**Chart 28: Major Other Developments: Average decision time (weeks)**



The 2015/16 Q4 All Applications figure was revised in July 2018

In addition a number of applications were concluded that were subject to separate processing agreements, these are not included in average time calculations. In quarter one of 2018/19 there were seven major other developments applications with processing agreements, 42.9% (3) of these applications met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. In quarter two there were ten, 60.0% (6) meeting the agreed timescales.

## 4. Processing Agreements

Some local authorities use processing agreements where the developer and the local authority agree on timescales for decisions. When an application is subject to a processing agreement it is removed from average decision time calculations and reported separately ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 1](#)).

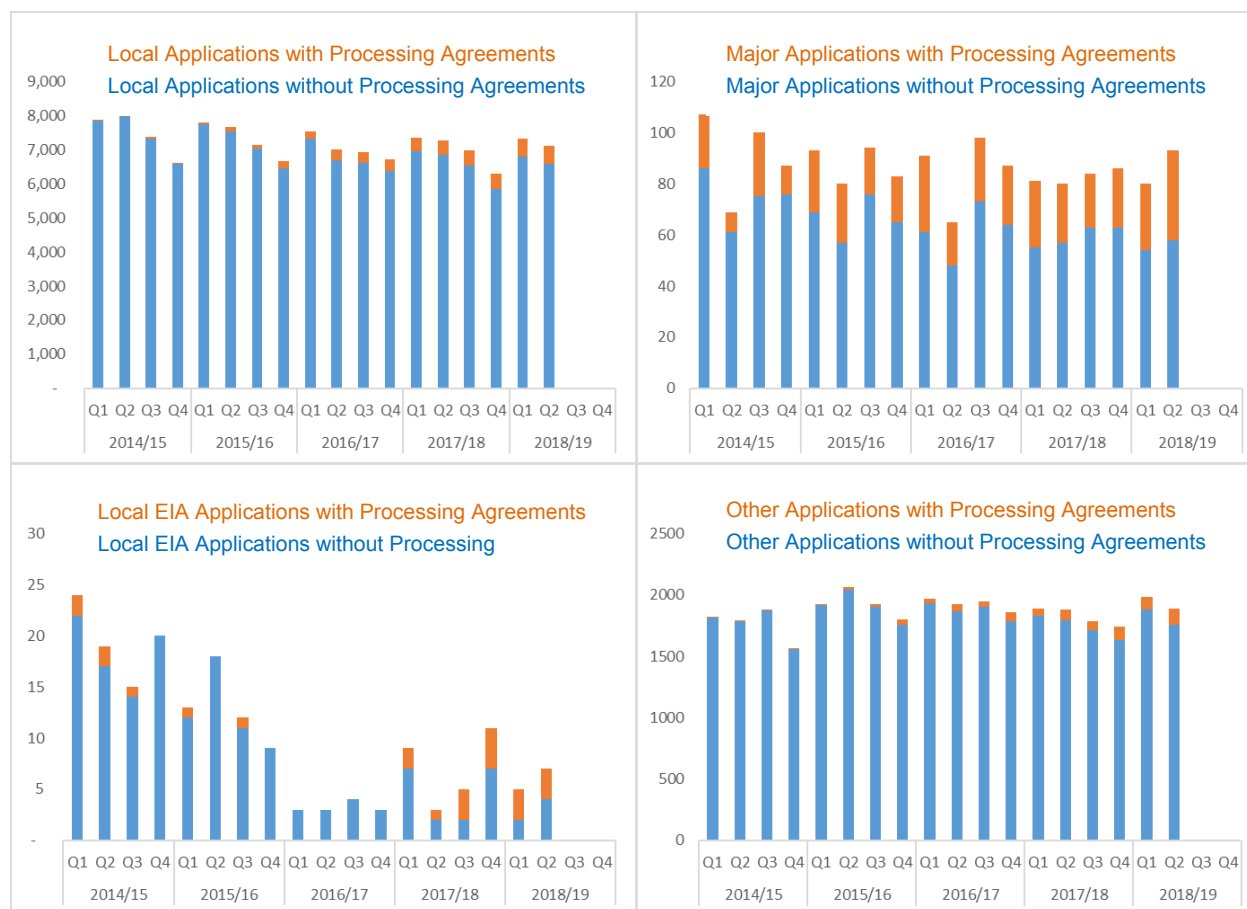
**Table 1: Processing Agreements, 2018/19, Quarter 1 and 2**

Category of development	Quarter 1		Quarter 2	
	Number of Decisions	% Within Agreed Timescales	Number of Decisions	% Within Agreed Timescales
Major Applications	26	61.5%	35	77.1%
Local Applications	537	72.6%	514	77.0%
EIA Developments	3	66.7%	3	66.7%
Other Consents	108	71.3%	130	56.9%
Total	674	72.0%	682	73.2%

In the first six months of 2018/19 there were 1,356 applications decided that had processing agreements, 353 (35%) more than the same period in the previous year.

In quarter one 7.2% of all applications (674 of 9,406) had processing agreements, in quarter two this increased to 7.5% (682 of 9,099) of all applications having a processing agreement.

**Chart 29: Proportion of applications with Processing Agreements**





## 5. Legal Agreements

The timescales for applications with legal agreements are dependent on the nature of the application, the particular complexities involved and the willingness of both the applicant and the planning authority to progress the matter at pace.

The figures exclude applications with processing agreements.

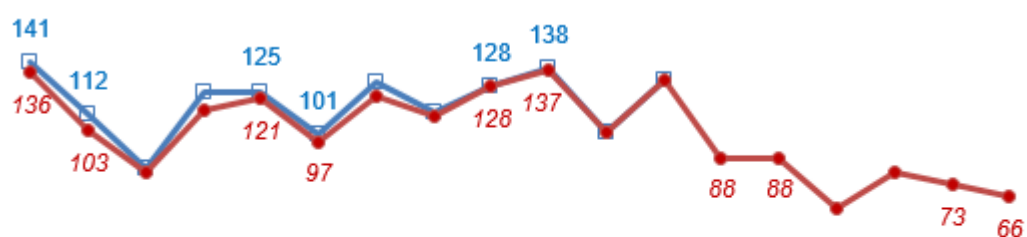
### 5.1 Local developments with Legal Agreements

In the first six months of 2018/19 there were 139 applications for local developments where planning authorities had planning/legal agreements in place, 37 fewer than in the same period in the previous year. The average time taken to make decisions on these applications was 31.4 weeks, two weeks slower than the 29.4 weeks for the same period in 2017/18.

There were 73 applications with planning/legal agreements for local developments decided in quarter one of 2018/19, 15 (17.0%) fewer than in the equivalent quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 31.6 weeks, more than four weeks slower than the 27.0 weeks for quarter one in the previous year. The average decision time was influenced by a number of applications with long decision times including four with times of more than two years ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 3](#)).

There were 66 applications with planning/legal agreements for local developments decided in quarter two of 2018/19, 22 (25.0%) fewer than in the equivalent quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 31.2 weeks, slightly quicker than the 31.7 weeks for quarter two in the previous year ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 3](#)). The average decision time was influenced by a number of applications with long decision times including three with times of more than two years, one of which took over seven years.

**Chart 30: Local developments with Legal Agreements: Number of decisions**

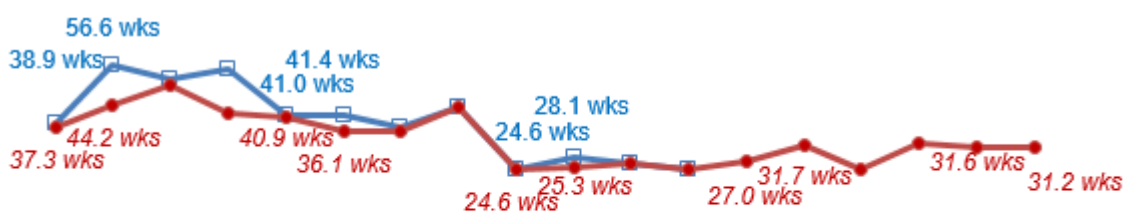


All Local Developments with Legal Agreements Decisions

Post 3 August 2009 Local Developments with Legal Agreements Decisions

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

**Chart 31: Local developments with Legal Agreements: Average decision time (weeks)**



**All Local Developments with Legal Agreements Average Decision Time**

**Post 3 August 2009 Local Developments with Legal Agreements Average Decision Time**

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

2016/17 Q4 figures were revised in July 2018

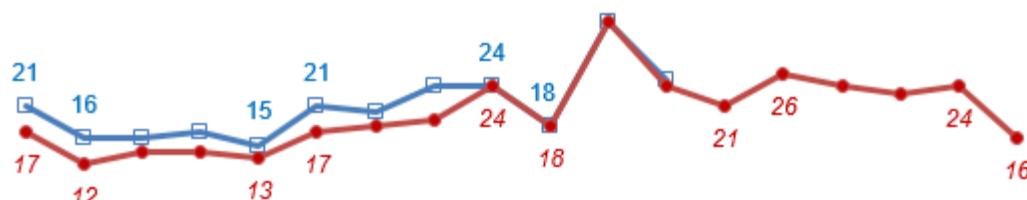
## 5.2 Major developments with Legal Agreements

In the first six months of 2018/19 there were 40 applications for major developments where planning authorities had planning/legal agreements in place, seven fewer than in the same period in the previous year. The average time taken to make decisions on these applications was 53.4 weeks, more than ten weeks slower than the 43.1 weeks for the same period in 2017/18.

There were 24 major development applications with planning/legal agreements decided in quarter one of 2018/19, three (14.3%) more than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 46.8 weeks, more than three weeks slower than the 43.3 weeks for quarter one in the previous year. The average decision time was influenced by a number of applications with long decision times including four with times of more than one year, the longest taking 4.5 years ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 2](#)).

There were 16 major development applications with planning/legal agreements decided in quarter two of 2018/19, ten (38.5%) fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 63.4 weeks, more than 20 weeks slower than the 42.9 weeks for quarter two in the previous year. The average decision time was influenced by a number of applications with long decision times including seven with times of more than one year, the longest taking 2.3 years ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 2](#)).

**Chart 32: Major developments with Legal Agreements: Number of decisions**

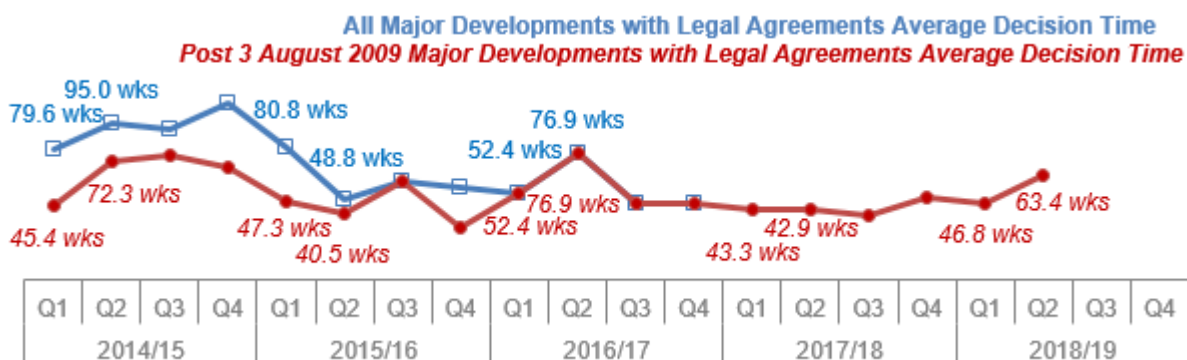


**All Major Developments with Legal Agreements Decisions**

**Post 3 August 2009 Major Developments with Legal Agreements Decisions**

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

**Chart 33: Major developments with Legal Agreements: Average decision time (weeks)**



The 2015/16 Q4 All Applications figure was revised in January 2018

## 6. Approval Rates

The overall rate of approvals for all types of application<sup>3</sup> (including legacy applications) was 93.7% in the first quarter of 2018/19 and 93.5% in quarter two. These were both slightly lower than the corresponding rates of 94.1% and 93.9% for the respective quarters in the previous year ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 19](#)).

## 7. Delegation Rates

Schemes of Delegation identify who will make the planning authority's decision on different types of planning application, whether it is an appointed officer or elected members. Delegation rates measure the proportion of planning decisions that are made by appointed officers. The delegation rate for all applications (including legacy applications) for quarter one, 94.9%, was slightly lower than the rate for the same quarter in the previous year (95.6%) while the quarter two rate, 96.1%, was slightly higher than the equivalent rate (96.0%) the previous year ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Table 20](#)).

<sup>3</sup> Decisions on applications classified as N17 Other consents and certificates are not included in the calculation of approval rates.

## 8. Appeals and Local Reviews

Local Review Bodies<sup>4</sup> dealt with 154 cases in the first quarter of 2018/19, 66.2% of which had the original decision upheld. In quarter two there were 128 applications subject to local reviews with 54.7% resulting in the original decision being upheld. In the same period in the previous year 62.0% (of 108 cases in quarter one) and 58.8% (of 131 cases in quarter two) had their original decisions upheld.

In addition 60.0% (of 70 cases) of appeals to Scottish Ministers in quarter one and 50.6% (of 87 cases) in quarter two had the original decision upheld. This compares with 57.3% (of 82 cases) and 56.0% (of 75 cases) respectively for quarter one and quarter two in 2017/18 ([Midyear, 2018/19 – Tables 16 & 17](#)).

## 9. Clock Stops

In the first six months of 2018/19 29 local authorities provided information on particular delays for 968 applications that were outwith their control and on which it was agreed it was appropriate to stop the clock for periods of time; 490 in quarter one and 478 in quarter 2. In the previous year clock stopped periods were reported for 256 applications across 31 local authorities in quarter one and for 298 applications across 28 local authorities in quarter two. Tables 2 and 3 show the number of applications where the clock was stopped by the planning authority for applications decided in quarters one and two 2018/19.

---

<sup>4</sup> Local Review Bodies were introduced in 2009. They consist of three or more elected members from the planning authority and their purpose is to review decisions on planning applications for certain types of development taken by officers under delegated powers. Requests for review must be made within 3 months of the decision. Reviews can only be requested where planning permission has been refused or where conditions have been imposed on a consent.

**Table 2: Clock stops by planning authority<sup>1</sup>, 2018/19, Quarter 1**

<b>Planning Authority</b>	<b>Total applications decided in 2018/19 Q1</b>	<b>Number of applications with clock stopped</b>	<b>Percentage of applications with clock stopped</b>	<b>Average length of time clock stopped (weeks)</b>
Aberdeen City	263	8	3.0%	56.5
Aberdeenshire	513	7	1.4%	4.2
Angus	160	0	0.0%	-
Argyll and Bute	346	23	6.6%	16.1
Cairngorms National Park	1	0	0.0%	-
Clackmannanshire	69	9	13.0%	4.8
Dumfries and Galloway	346	18	5.2%	14.2
Dundee City	175	10	5.7%	29.5
East Ayrshire	150	22	14.7%	9.8
East Dunbartonshire	191	46	24.1%	4.9
East Lothian	271	28	10.3%	14.7
East Renfrewshire	191	1	0.5%	6.0
City of Edinburgh	929	0	0.0%	-
Falkirk	177	7	4.0%	9.8
Fife	521	7	1.3%	3.4
Glasgow City	558	74	13.3%	13.1
Highland	738	53	7.2%	22.2
Inverclyde	91	7	7.7%	8.5
Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park	56	6	10.7%	18.8
Midlothian	131	14	10.7%	16.5
Moray	183	48	26.2%	7.0
Na h-Eileanan Siar	106	1	0.9%	26.3
North Ayrshire	172	4	2.3%	4.6
North Lanarkshire	248	2	0.8%	65.7
Orkney Islands	100	8	8.0%	3.8
Perth and Kinross	425	28	6.6%	12.6
Renfrewshire	236	25	10.6%	6.8
Scottish Borders	211	0	0.0%	-
Shetland Islands	68	5	7.4%	4.4
South Ayrshire	229	0	0.0%	-
South Lanarkshire	451	5	1.1%	15.2
Stirling	186	0	0.0%	-
West Dunbartonshire	68	17	25.0%	8.8
West Lothian	172	7	4.1%	53.2
<b>SCOTLAND</b>	<b>8,732</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>13.5</b>

1. Processing Agreements are not included in this analysis.

**Table 3: Clock stops by planning authority<sup>1</sup>, 2018/19, Quarter 2**

<b>Planning Authority</b>	<b>Total applications decided in 2018/19 Q2</b>	<b>Number of applications with clock stopped</b>	<b>Percentage of applications with clock stopped</b>	<b>Average length of time clock stopped (weeks)</b>
Aberdeen City	218	8	3.7%	19.5
Aberdeenshire	560	8	1.4%	7.3
Angus	152	0	0.0%	-
Argyll and Bute	314	26	8.3%	17.8
Cairngorms National Park	0	-	-	-
Clackmannanshire	51	7	13.7%	4.2
Dumfries and Galloway	294	10	3.4%	15.5
Dundee City	160	7	4.4%	7.1
East Ayrshire	164	32	19.5%	7.4
East Dunbartonshire	180	43	23.9%	4.3
East Lothian	278	18	6.5%	20.5
East Renfrewshire	215	3	1.4%	5.0
City of Edinburgh	861	3	0.3%	98.8
Falkirk	138	7	5.1%	13.1
Fife	530	10	1.9%	12.7
Glasgow City	584	54	9.2%	11.3
Highland	684	43	6.3%	15.8
Inverclyde	101	14	13.9%	7.4
Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park	70	11	15.7%	14.9
Midlothian	127	5	3.9%	13.9
Moray	167	52	31.1%	11.2
Na h-Eileanan Siar	105	1	1.0%	27.3
North Ayrshire	164	6	3.7%	6.5
North Lanarkshire	199	2	1.0%	23.8
Orkney Islands	104	16	15.4%	17.0
Perth and Kinross	423	34	8.0%	16.2
Renfrewshire	175	23	13.1%	13.9
Scottish Borders	211	0	0.0%	-
Shetland Islands	58	7	12.1%	3.6
South Ayrshire	199	0	0.0%	-
South Lanarkshire	432	3	0.7%	10.2
Stirling	201	0	0.0%	-
West Dunbartonshire	57	17	29.8%	8.1
West Lothian <sup>2</sup>	241	8	3.3%	24.6
<b>SCOTLAND</b>	<b>8,417</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	<b>12.7</b>

1. Processing Agreements are not included in this analysis.

2. Legacy cases are not included in this analysis

## 10. Legacy Cases

There were five legacy cases decided in the first six months of 2018/19, one in quarter one and four in quarter two.

Tables 4 to 9 show the legacy cases decided in quarters one and two of 2018/19 by planning authority and development type. In quarter one no legacy applications without processing agreements were concluded.

### Quarter 1, 2018/19

#### Decided legacy applications with processing agreements, by planning authority and development type

Table 4

Local Authority	Number of Legacy Cases	% meeting agreed timescales
East Ayrshire	1	100.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 5

Development Type	Number of Legacy Cases	% meeting agreed timescales
Electricity Generation - Local	1	100.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100.0</b>

### Quarter 2, 2018/19

#### Decided legacy applications without processing agreements, by planning authority and development type

Table 6

Local Authority	Number of Legacy Cases	Average Decision Time (weeks)
West Lothian <sup>1</sup>	2	163.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>163.6</b>

Table 7

Development Type	Number of Legacy Cases	Average Decision Time (weeks)
Housing - Major <sup>1</sup>	1	122.4
Housing - Local <sup>1</sup>	1	204.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>163.6</b>

1. These legacy cases had time removed from the decision time calculation where delays were caused by the applicant or external consultees outwith the planning authority's control.

#### Decided legacy applications with processing agreements, by planning authority and development type

Table 8

Local Authority	Number of Legacy Cases	% meeting agreed timescales
City of Edinburgh	1	100.0
South Ayrshire	1	100.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100.0</b>

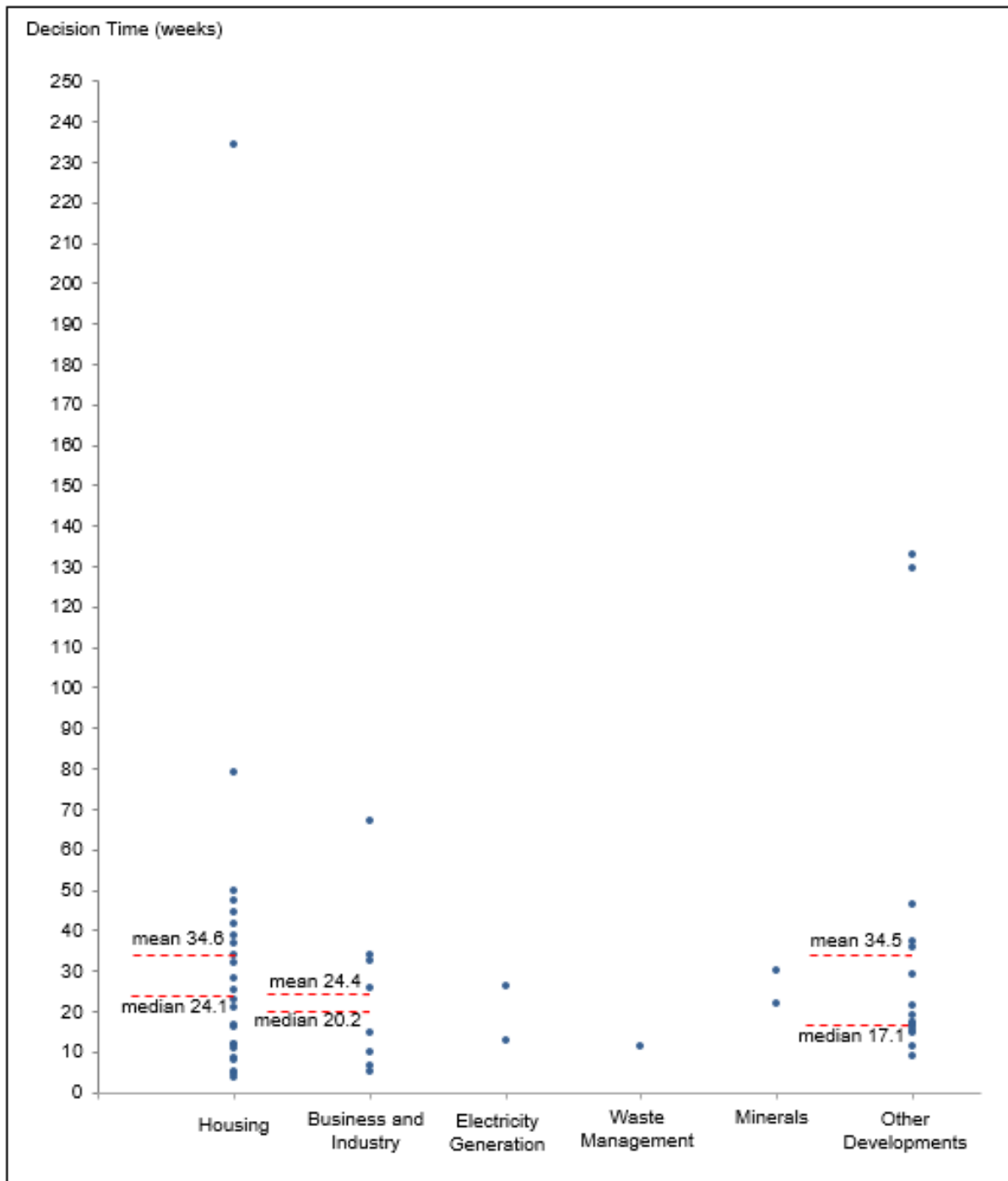
Table 9

Development Type	Number of Legacy Cases	% meeting agreed timescales
Housing - Major	1	100.0
Housing - Local	1	100.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## Annex A – Distribution of Decision Times for Major Applications

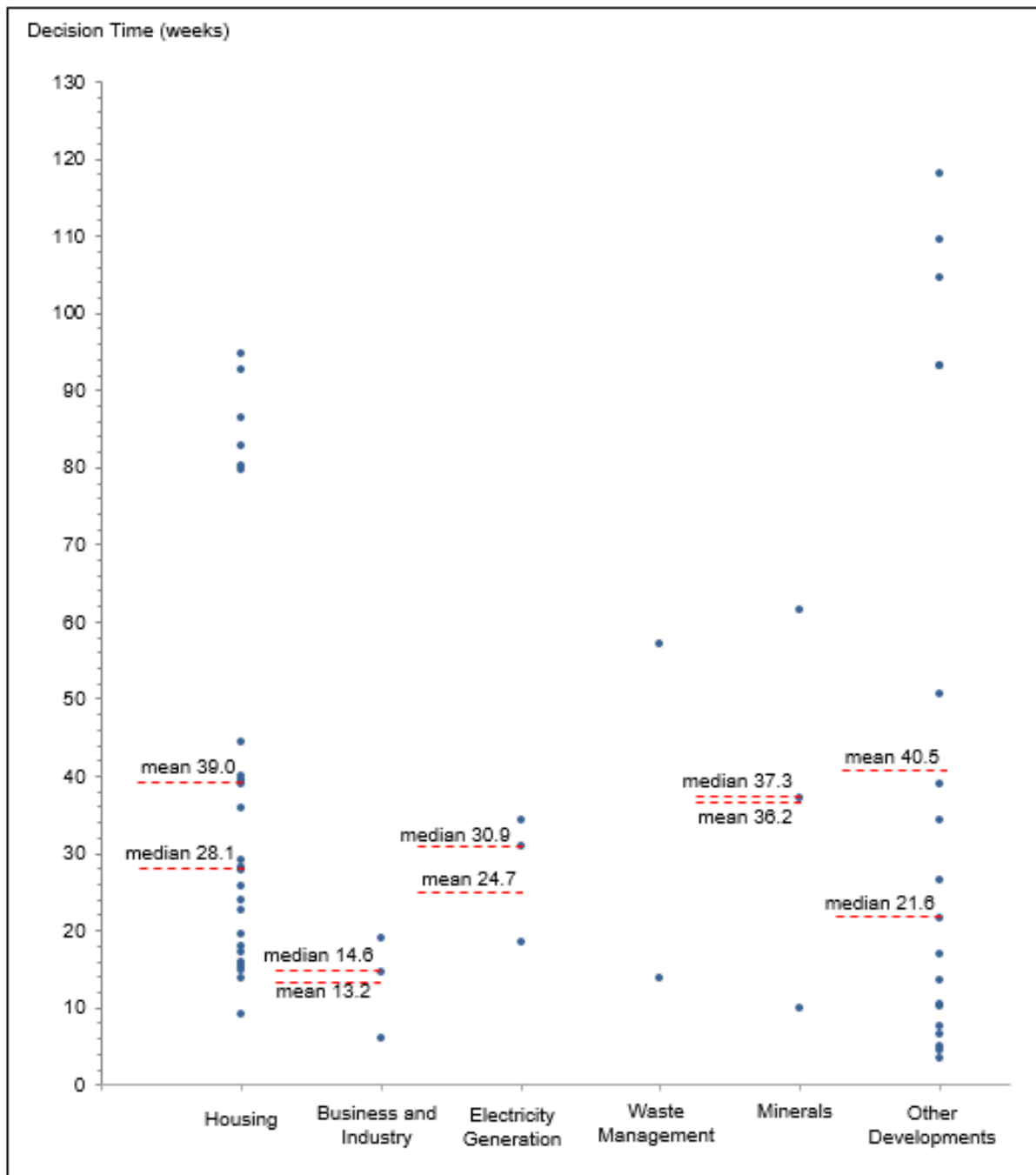
The following charts show the distribution of the decision times for major applications that were concluded in quarter one and quarter two of 2018/19. Each column of dots shows the distribution of decision times for the applications in the category. Each dot represents one application (some dots land on top of one other). Where there were three or more applications horizontal lines show the mean and median decision times.

**Chart 34: Distribution of decision times in quarter one 2018/19 for major applications (excludes one legacy case)**





**Chart 35: Distribution of decision times in quarter two 2018/19 for major applications (excludes four legacy cases)**



**All Major Applications**

The average decision time figures of 31.7 and 37.3 weeks for quarters one and two have been influenced by a number of lengthier decision times, including 18 decision times of longer than a year – five in quarter one and 13 in quarter two. Three of the five in quarter one and three of the 13 in quarter two had decision times of longer than two years. The longest decision time in quarter one was 4.5 years.

## **Housing**

In quarter one two Major Housing applications had decision times of more than one year, the longest taking more than four years. The average decision time of 34.6 weeks was significantly influenced by these two applications with decision times of 1.5 and 4.5 years; the average decision time for the remaining 22 applications was 23.6 weeks.

In quarter two, six Major Housing applications had decision times of more than one year while 64.3% (18 of 28) were decided in a time that was quicker than the average.

## **Other**

In quarter one there were two Major Other Development applications with decision times of more than two years. The average decision time of 34.5 weeks was significantly influenced by these two applications with long decision times. The average decision time for the remaining 15 applications was 21.6 weeks.

In quarter two five major other development applications had decision times of more than one year, three of these taking more than two years

## An Official Statistics publication for Scotland

Official and National Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. Both undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs and are produced free from any political interference.

### Correspondence and enquiries

For enquiries about this publication please contact:

Planning Statistics,

Communities Analysis Division,

Area 2-H Dockside, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ

Telephone: 0131 244 0439,

E-mail: [planstats@gov.scot](mailto:planstats@gov.scot)

For general enquiries about Scottish Government statistics please contact:

Office of the Chief Statistician, Telephone: 0131 244 0442,

E-mail: [statistics.enquiries@gov.scot](mailto:statistics.enquiries@gov.scot)

### How to access background or source data

The data collected for this statistical bulletin:

are available in more detail through [statistics.gov.uk](http://statistics.gov.uk).

are available via excel spreadsheets on the Planning Statistics webpages at:

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Planning>

Details for individual planning applications are also available on planning authorities' eplanning websites.

may be made available on request, subject to consideration of legal and ethical factors. Please contact [planstats@gov.scot](mailto:planstats@gov.scot) for further information.

cannot be made available by Scottish Government for further analysis as Scottish Government is not the data controller.

### Complaints and suggestions

If you are not satisfied with our service or have any comments or suggestions, please write to the Chief Statistician, 2W.02, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG, Telephone: (0131) 244 0302, e-mail [statistics.enquiries@gov.scot](mailto:statistics.enquiries@gov.scot).

If you would like to be consulted about statistical collections or receive notification of publications, please register your interest at [www.gov.scot/scotstat](http://www.gov.scot/scotstat)

Details of forthcoming publications can be found at [www.gov.scot/statistics](http://www.gov.scot/statistics)

ISBN 978-1-78781-538-4 (web only)

### Crown Copyright

You may use or re-use this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. See: [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/)