

## PEOPLE, COMMUNITIES AND PLACES

### Planning Performance Statistics, 2018/19, Quarterly (October 2018 to March 2019)

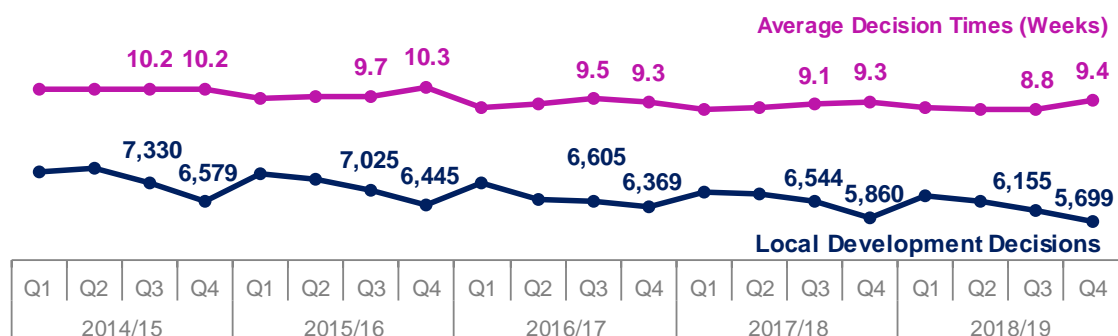
This report presents the latest quarterly summary statistics on planning application decision-making and timescales for October 2018 to March 2019 (Quarters 3 and 4), as well as historic data going back to quarter one of 2014/15. It is based on data collected by the Scottish Government from Local and Planning Authorities as part of the Planning Performance Framework (introduced in 2012).

#### Applications for Local Developments (excludes legacy cases and applications with processing agreements)

There were 11,854 local development applications subject to average time calculations in the last six months of 2018/19, 550 fewer than the same period in the previous year. The average decision time was 9.1 weeks, slightly quicker than the 9.2 weeks for the same period in the previous year.

The average decision time for the 6,155 local development applications decided in quarter three was 8.8 weeks matching the quickest time for any previous quarter. In quarter four 5,699 applications had an average decision time of 9.4 weeks.

**Chart 1: Applications for Local Developments (excluding legacy cases and applications with processing agreements)**



2018/19 Q2 Figures were updated 23 July 2019

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 three of 2018/19 there were 546 local development applications with processing agreements, 80.2% of these applications met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. In quarter four there were 538, 76.6% meeting the agreed timescales.

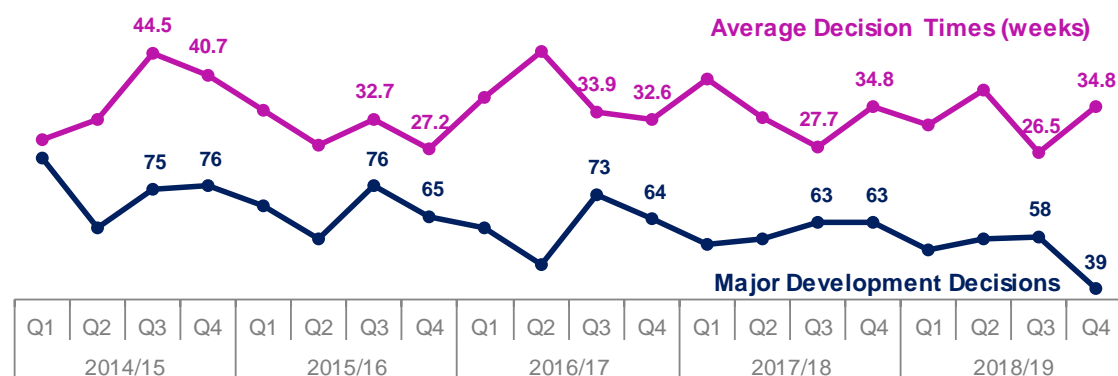
There were also three Local Development pre 3rd August 2009 legacy cases concluded. Further details about legacy cases can be seen in [Section 10](#).

## Applications for Major Developments (excludes legacy cases and applications with processing agreements)

There were 97 major development applications subject to average time calculations in the last six months of 2018/19, 29 fewer than in the same period in the previous year. The average decision time was 29.8 weeks, 1.4 weeks quicker than the 31.2 weeks for the same period in the previous year.

The average decision time for 58 major development applications concluded in quarter three was 26.5 weeks, quicker than any previous quarter. In quarter four 39 major development applications had an average decision time of 34.8 weeks.

**Chart 2: Applications for Major Developments (excluding legacy cases and applications with processing agreements)**



2018/19 Q1 and Q2 Figures were updated 23 July 2019

The average decision time figures have been influenced by a number of lengthier decision times. There were 12 decision times of longer than a year – seven in quarter three and five in quarter four. The longest decision time in quarter three was 1.5 years. Two decisions in quarter four took more than two years, the longest taking 2.8 years. Further information on the distribution of decision times for major development applications is given in [Annex A](#).

In addition, a number of applications subject to processing agreements were concluded: 28 in quarter three (78.6% of these applications met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities) and 26 in quarter four (73.1% meeting the agreed timescales). These are not included in average decision time calculations.

In quarter three major applications with processing agreements accounted for almost a third (28 of 86) of all the decisions made for major developments. In quarter four this increased to 40%, 26 of 65 major applications.

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

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## **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 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.

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<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.

Applications with processing agreements<sup>3</sup> are not included in the calculation of average decision times.

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

## **1.6 Stopping the Clock**

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.

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<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.

<sup>3</sup> Processing agreements are planning tools used where the developer and the local authority agree in advance on timescales for decisions.

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 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>.

The following revisions were made in this bulletin to previously published figures as a result of additional information provided by local authorities and further quality assurance.

Aberdeenshire Quarter 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of Local applications with processing agreements</li> <li>• Percentage of applications delegated</li> </ul>
Highland Quarters 1 and 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number and average decision times of local applications with environmental impact assessments</li> <li>• Number and average decision times of “Other Consents and Certificates”</li> </ul>
Midlothian Quarter 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Average decision times for Local Housing applications – due to additional clock stop details</li> </ul>
Orkney Islands Quarters 1 and 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Correction to average decision time for local reviews</li> </ul>
Stirling Quarters 1 and 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of major applications with processing agreements</li> <li>• Number and average decision time for major “business and industry”, major “Other developments”, local “Other developments” and applications subject to legal agreements</li> </ul>
West Lothian Quarters 1 and 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Correction to Approval rates</li> </ul>
SCOTLAND Quarters 1 and 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changed to reflect the updated local authority figures</li> </ul>



## 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 without processing agreements, 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 applications including 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 11,854 local development applications subject to average time calculations in the last six months of 2018/19, 550 fewer than in the same period in 2017/18. The average decision time for these local development applications was 9.1 weeks, slightly quicker than the 9.2 weeks for the equivalent period in 2017/18.

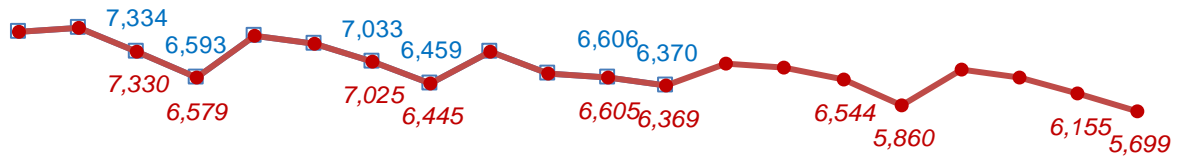
There were 6,155 applications (excluding legacy cases) for local developments decided in quarter three of 2018/19, 389 (5.9%) fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 8.8 weeks, quicker than the 9.1 weeks for the same quarter in the previous year and equalling the quickest average decision time for any previous quarter. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 76.8%, up from the corresponding quarter three figure of 71.7% in the previous year ([Year End, 2018/19 – Tables 3 & 4](#)).

There were 5,699 applications (excluding legacy cases) for local developments decided in quarter four of 2018/19, 161 (2.7%) fewer than the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 9.4 weeks, slightly slower than the 9.3 weeks for the same quarter in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 72.3%, down slightly from the corresponding quarter four figure of 72.6% in the previous year ([Year End, 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 three of 2018/19 there were 546 local development applications with processing agreements, 80.2% of these applications met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. In quarter four there were 538, 76.6% meeting the agreed timescales ([Year End, 2018/19 – Table 1](#)).

In quarter three local applications with processing agreements accounted for 8.1% of the decisions made for local developments, in quarter four they accounted for 8.6%.

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

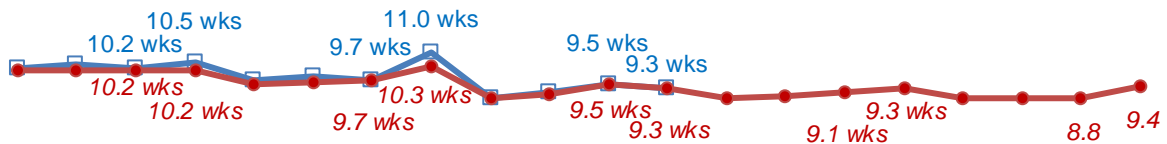


**All Local Development Decisions**  
**Post 3 August 2009 Local Development Decisions**

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			

2018/19 Q2 Figures were updated 23 July 2019

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

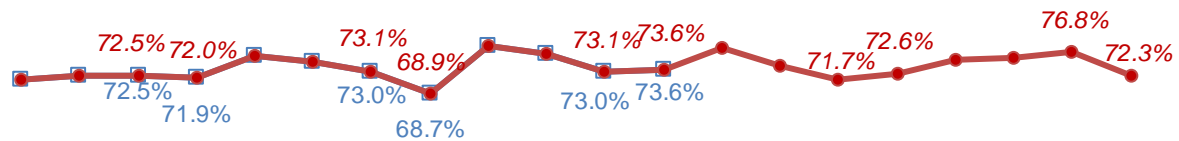


**All Local Developments Average Decision Time**  
**Post 3 August 2009 Local Developments Average Decision Time**

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  
 2018/19 Q2 Figures were updated 23 July 2019

### 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			

2018/19 Q2 Figures were updated 23 July 2019

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



## 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 and 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 6,129 local non householder developments decided during the last six months of 2018/19, 414 fewer than the equivalent period in the previous year. The average decision time for these applications was 10.9 weeks, slightly slower than the 10.8 weeks for the same period in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 63.4%, up from 62.5% for the corresponding six month period in the previous year.

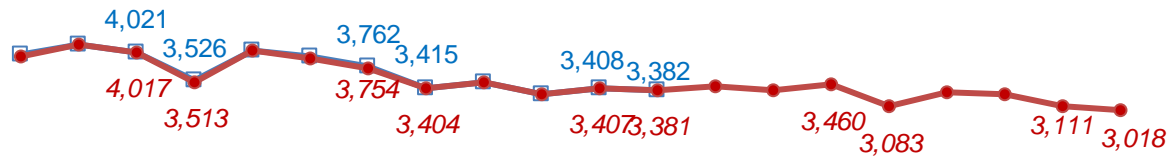
There were 3,111 applications (excluding legacy cases) for local non householder developments decided in quarter three of 2018/19, 349 (10.1%) fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 10.7 weeks, the same as quarter three in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 65.8%, up from the corresponding quarter three figure of 61.6% in the previous year ([Year End, 2018/19 – Table 5](#)).

There were 3,018 applications (excluding legacy cases) for local non householder developments decided in quarter four of 2018/19, 65 (2.1%) fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 11.2 weeks, slower by two days than the same quarter in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 60.9%, down from the corresponding quarter four figure of 63.4% in the previous year ([Year End, 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 three of 2018/19 there were 401 local non householder development applications with processing agreements, 78.8% (316) of these applications met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. In quarter four there were 359, 78.3.0% (281) 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**



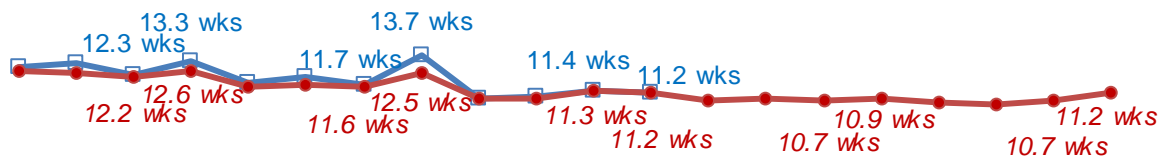
All Local Development (Non Householder) Decisions

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			

2018/19 Q2 Figures were updated 23 July 2019

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



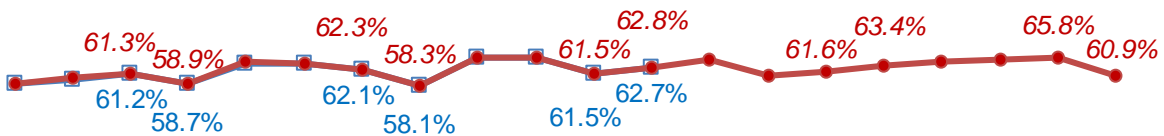
All Local Developments (Non Householder) Average Decision Time

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			

2018/19 Q2 Figures were updated 23 July 2019

**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			

2018/19 Q2 Figures were updated 23 July 2019

## 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.**

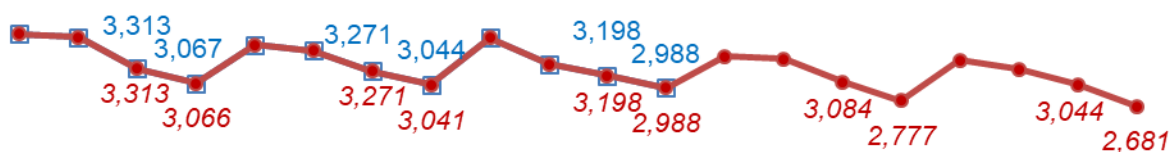
There were 5,725 householder developments decided during the last six months of 2018/19, 136 fewer than the equivalent period in the previous year. The average decision time for these householder applications was 7.2 weeks, two days quicker than the 7.5 weeks for the same period in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 86.7%, up from 82.9% for the corresponding six month period in the previous year.

There were 3,044 applications for householder developments decided in quarter three of 2018/19, 40 (1.3%) fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 7.0 weeks, slightly quicker than the 7.3 weeks for quarter three in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 88.1%, up from the corresponding quarter three figure of 83.0% in the previous year ([Year End 2018/19 – Table 6](#)).

There were 2,681 applications for householder developments decided in quarter four of 2018/19, 96 (3.5%) fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 7.4 weeks, slightly quicker than the 7.6 weeks for the same quarter in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 85.2%, up from the corresponding quarter four figure of 82.7% in the previous year ([Year End, 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 three of 2018/19 there were 145 householder applications with processing agreements, 84.1% (122) of these applications met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. In quarter four there were 179, 73.2% (131) meeting the agreed timescales.

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

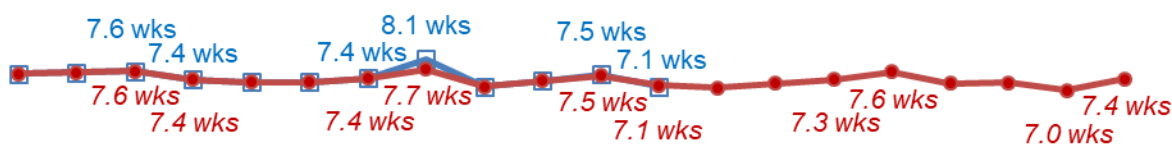


All Householder Developments Decisions

*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

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

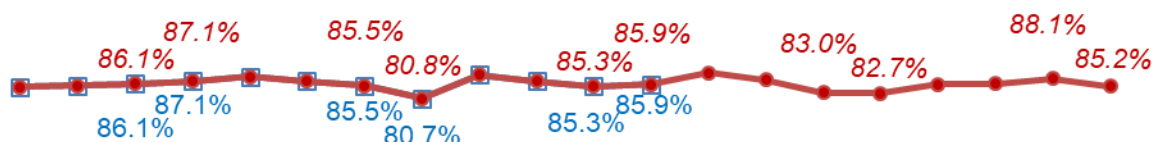


**All Householder Developments Average Decision Time**

**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.**

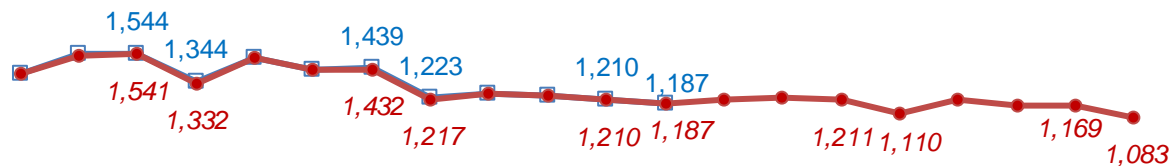
There were 2,252 local housing developments decided during the last six months of 2018/19, 69 fewer than the same period in the previous year. The average decision time for these 2,252 applications was 12.7 weeks, almost a week slower than the 11.8 weeks for the same period in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 56.0%, down slightly from 56.4% for the corresponding six month period in the previous year.

There were 1,169 applications for local housing developments decided in quarter three of 2018/19, 42 fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 12.3 weeks, more than four days slower than the 11.7 weeks for quarter three in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 59.8%, up from the corresponding quarter three figure of 54.3% in the previous year ([Year End, 8/19 – Table 8](#)).

There were 1,083 applications for local housing developments decided in quarter four of 2018/19, 27 fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 13.2 weeks, more than a week slower than the 12.0

weeks for quarter four in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 51.9%, down from the corresponding quarter four figure of 58.8% in the previous year ([Year End, 2018/19 – Table 8](#)).

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

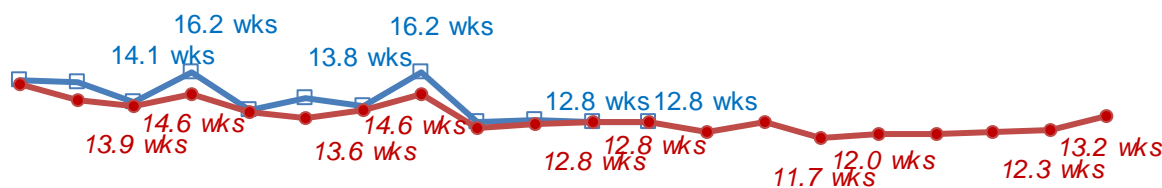


**All Local Housing Development Decisions**  
**Post 3 August 2009 Local Housing Development Decisions**

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			

2018/19 Q1 Figures were updated 23 July 2019

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

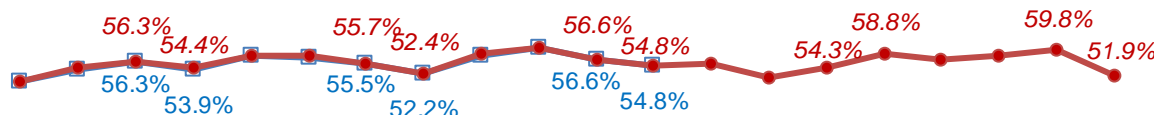


**All Local Housing Developments Average Decision Time**  
**Post 3 August 2009 Local Housing Developments Average Decision Time**

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			

2018/19 Q1 Figures were updated 23 July 2019

**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			

2018/19 Q1 Figures were updated 23 July 2019

In addition, applications were also concluded that were subject to processing agreements, these are not included in average time calculations. In quarter three of 2018/19 there were 194 local housing applications with processing agreements, 77.8% (151) of these applications met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. In quarter four there were 169, 75.7% (128) meeting the agreed timescales.

## 2.5. Local Business and Industry Developments

**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 local the gross floor space as a result of the development must not exceed 10,000 square metres and the site area must be 2 hectares or less.**

There were 691 local business and industry developments decided during the last six months of 2018/19, 70 fewer than the equivalent period in the previous year. The average decision time for these applications was 9.6 weeks, slightly quicker than the 9.8 weeks for the equivalent period in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 67.0%, down from 68.7% for the corresponding six month period in the previous year.

There were 372 applications for local business and industry developments decided in quarter three of 2018/19, 59 (6.5%) fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 9.2 weeks, a week quicker than in quarter three in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 70.2%, up from the corresponding quarter three figure of 67.3% in the previous year ([Year End, 2018/19 – Table 10](#)).

There were 319 applications for local business and industry developments decided in quarter four of 2018/19, 44 (12.1%) fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 10.0 weeks, slower than the 9.5 weeks for quarter four in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 63.3%, down from the corresponding quarter four figure of 70.2% in the previous year ([Year End, 2018/19 – Table 10](#)).

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 three of 2018/19 there were 31 local business and industry applications with processing agreements, 80.6% (25) of these applications met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. In quarter four there were 21, 90.5% (19) meeting the agreed timescales.



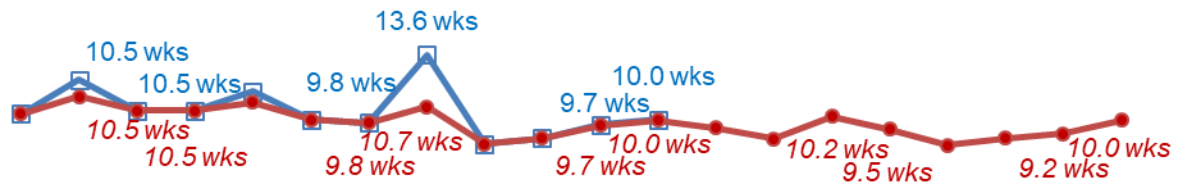
**Chart 15: Local Business and Industry Developments: Number of decisions**



**All Local Business and Industry Development Decisions**  
**Post 3 August 2009 Local Business and Industry 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			

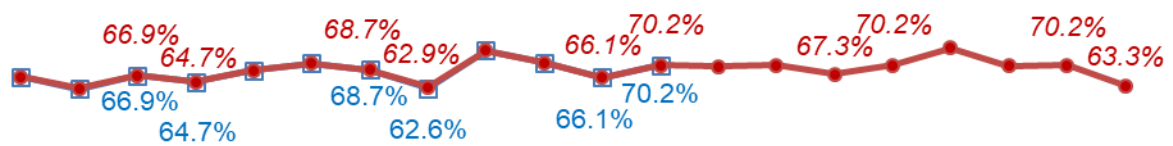
**Chart 16: Local Business and Industry Developments: Average decision time (weeks)**



**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			

## 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 2,804 local other developments decided during the last six months of 2018/19, 144 (4.9%) fewer than in the same period in the previous year. The average decision time for these applications was 9.8 weeks, slightly quicker than the 10.0 weeks for the equivalent period in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 67.9%, up from 66.0% for the corresponding six month period in the previous year.

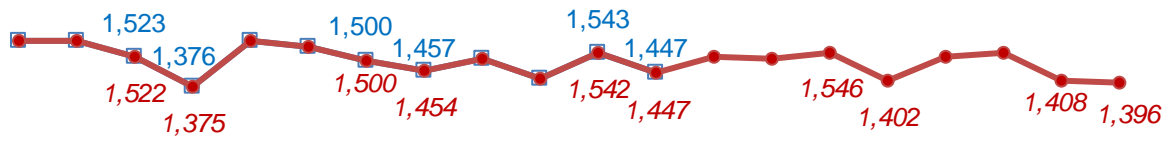
There were 1,408 applications for local other developments decided in quarter three of 2018/19, 138 (8.9%) fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 9.7 weeks, quicker than the 10.0 weeks for quarter three in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 69.5%, up from the corresponding quarter three figure of 65.0% in the previous year ([Year End, 2018/19 – Table 12](#)).

There were 1,396 applications for local other developments decided in quarter four of 2018/19, six fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 10.0 weeks, the same as quarter four in the previous year. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 66.4%, down slightly from the corresponding quarter four figure of 67.0% in the previous year ([Year End, 2018/19 – Table 12](#)).

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 three of 2018/19 there were 137 local other developments applications with processing agreements, 80.3% (110) of these applications met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. In quarter four there were 132, 76.5% (101) meeting the agreed timescales.

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

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



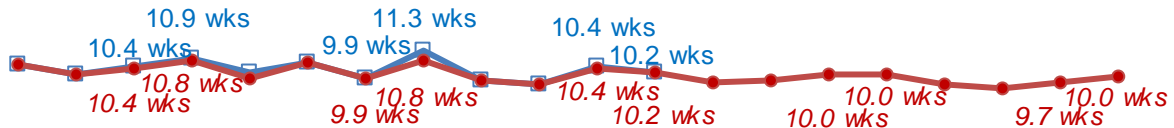
All Local Other Developments Decisions

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			

2018/19 Q2 Figures were updated 23 July 2019

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



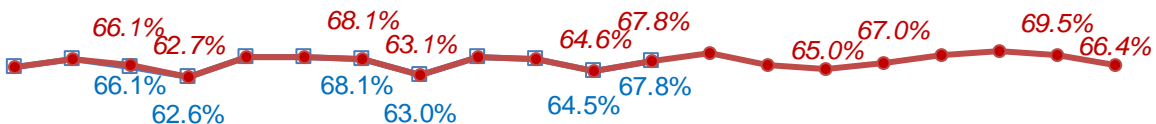
All Local Other Developments Average Decision Time

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			

2018/19 Q2 Figures were updated 23 July 2019

**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			

2018/19 Q2 Figures were updated 23 July 2019

### 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 for applications without processing agreements across all major developments, along with separate figures for the key categories of housing, business and industry and other developments. Information on other 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.

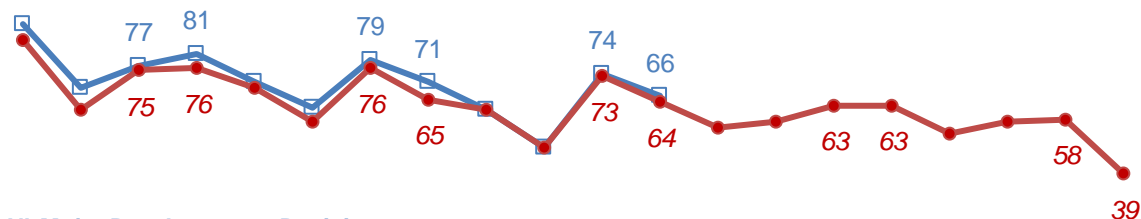
#### 3.1. All Major Developments

There were 97 major development applications (excluding legacy cases) subject to average time calculations in the last six months of 2018/19, 29 fewer than in the same period in 2017/18. The average decision time for these applications was 29.8 weeks, more than a week quicker than the 31.2 weeks for the same period in 2017/18.

There were 58 applications (excluding legacy cases) for major developments decided in quarter three of 2018/19, five fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time for these applications was 26.5 weeks, more than a week quicker than the 27.7 weeks for the same quarter in the previous year ([Year End, 2018/19 – Table 2](#)).

There were 39 applications (excluding legacy cases) for major developments decided in quarter four of 2018/19, 24 fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time for these 39 applications was 34.8 weeks, the same as quarter four in the previous year ([Year End, 2018/19 – Table 2](#)).

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

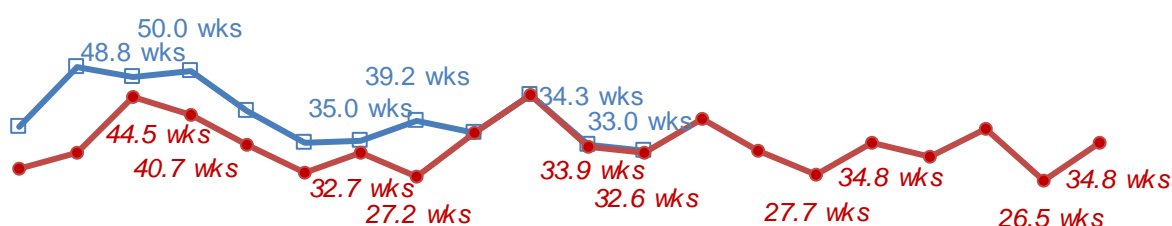


**All Major Developments Decisions**  
**Post 3 August 2009 Major Developments Decisions**

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

2018/19 Q1 and Q2 Figures were updated 23 July 2019

**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	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

The average decision time figures for quarters three and four have been influenced by a number of lengthier decision times, including 12 decision times of longer than a year – seven in quarter three and five in quarter four. Two of the five in quarter four had decision times of longer than two years.

60% (35 of 58) of major development applications decided in quarter three were decided in a time that was quicker than the quarter three average. In quarter four 64% (25 of 39) 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 three of 2018/19 there were 28 major development applications with processing agreements, 78.6% (22) of these applications met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. In quarter four there were 26, 73.1% (19) meeting the agreed timescales ([Year End, 2018/19 – Table 1](#)).

In quarter three major applications with processing agreements accounted for 32.6% of all major development decisions, in quarter four they accounted for 40.0%.

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

Glasgow City made most decisions on major developments in the last six months of 2018/19; 24 in total. In quarter three they concluded 17 major development applications with an average decision time of 20.0 weeks. Seven major development applications were concluded by Glasgow City in quarter four, with an average decision time of 19.0 weeks ([Year End, 2018/19 – Tables 1 & 2](#)).

### 3.2. Major Housing Developments

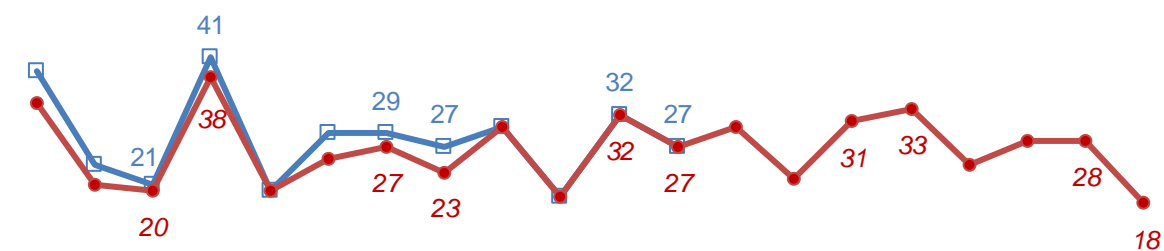
**Major Housing developments are those with 50 or more dwellings or with a site area that is or exceeds 2 hectares where the predominant use is for housing.**

There were 46 major housing developments subject to average decision time calculations decided during the last six months of 2018/19, 18 fewer than in the same period in the previous year. The average decision time for these 46 applications was 32.9 weeks, more than three weeks quicker than the 36.0 weeks for the equivalent period in the previous year.

There were 28 applications for major housing developments decided in quarter three of 2018/19, three fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 30.0 weeks, almost four weeks quicker than the 33.8 weeks for quarter three in the previous year ([Year End, 2018/19 – Table 7](#)).

There were 18 applications for major housing developments decided in quarter four of 2018/19, 15 fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 37.3 weeks, almost a week quicker than the 38.1 weeks for quarter four in the previous year ([Year End, 2018/19 – Table 7](#)).

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



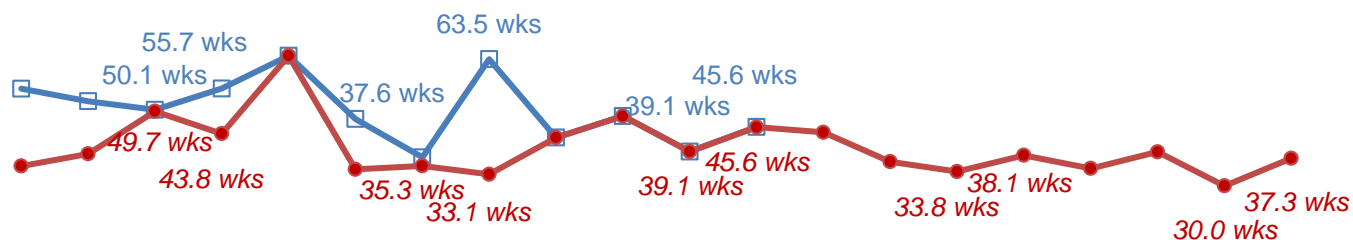
All Major Housing Developments Decisions  
 Post 3 August 2009 Major Housing Developments Decisions

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			

2018/19 Q2 figures were updated 23 July 2019



**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			

Average figures based on a small number of applications can be volatile. In quarter three five Major Housing applications had decision times of more than one year. In quarter four, two Major Housing applications had decision times of more than one year the longest taking 2.7 years. For further detail on the distribution of decision times for major housing see [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 three of 2018/19 there were 15 major housing applications with processing agreements, 66.7% (10) of these applications met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. In quarter four there were 14, 78.6% (11) meeting the agreed timescales.

### 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 12 major business and industry developments subject to average decision time calculations decided during the last six months of 2018/19, one less than the same period in the previous year. The average decision time was 25.2 weeks, more than 2 weeks quicker than the 27.3 weeks for the same period in the previous year.

There were eight applications for major business and industry developments decided in quarter three of 2018/19, two more than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 13.4 weeks, more than 20 weeks quicker than the 34.0 weeks for the same period in the previous year ([Year End, 2018/19 – Table 9](#)).

There were four applications for major business and industry developments decided in quarter four of 2018/19. The average decision time was 48.9 weeks. more than 27 weeks slower than the 21.5 weeks for the same period in the previous year ([Year End, 2018/19 – Table 9](#)).

Average figures based on a small number of applications can be volatile. In quarter four one major other development application had a decision time of 2.8 years. The average decision time of 48.9 weeks was significantly influenced by this single application with a long decision time. The average decision time for the remaining three applications was 17.2 weeks. For further detail on the distribution of decision times for major other developments see [Annex A](#).

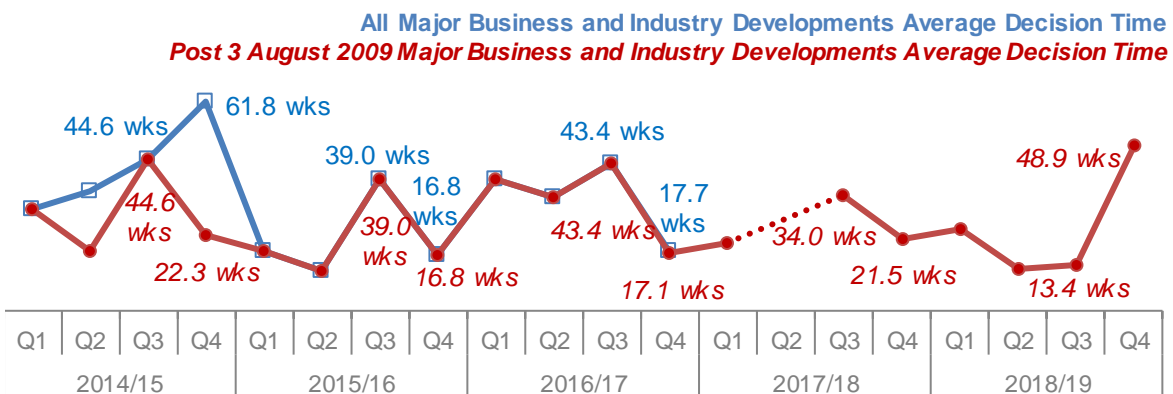
In addition a number of applications were concluded that were subject to separate processing agreements, these are not included in average time calculations. In quarter three there was one major business and industry application with a processing agreement which met agreed timescales that had been set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

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



2018/19 Q2 figures were updated 23 July 2019

**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. 2018/19 Q2 figures were updated 23 July 2019

### 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 29 major other developments subject to average decision time calculations decided during the first six months of 2018/19, eleven fewer than in the equivalent period in the previous year. The average decision time for these applications was 23.2 weeks, more than four weeks quicker than the 27.6 weeks for the same period in the previous year.

There were 19 applications for major other developments decided in quarter three of 2018/19, one less than the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 26.0 weeks, more than five weeks slower than the 20.8 weeks for quarter three in the previous year ([Year End, 2018/19 – Table 11](#)).

There were 10 applications for major other developments decided in quarter four of 2018/19, half of the number in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 17.8 weeks, more than 16 weeks quicker than the 34.4 weeks for quarter four in the previous year ([Year End, 2018/19 – Table 11](#)).

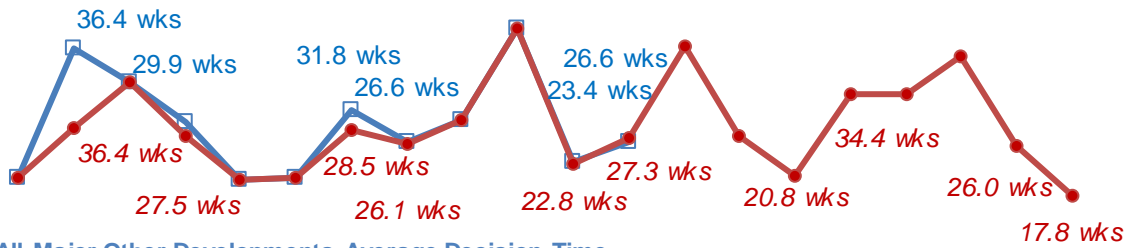
Average figures based on a small number of applications can be volatile. In quarter three there were two major other development applications with decision times of more than a year. The average decision time of 26.0 weeks was significantly influenced by these two applications with long decision times. The average decision time for the remaining 17 applications was 20.1 weeks. For further detail on the distribution of decision times for major other developments see [Annex A](#).

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



2018/19 Q1 figures were updated 23 July 2019

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



**All Major Other Developments Average Decision Time**

**Post 3 August 2009 Major 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			

2018/19 Q1 figures were updated 23 July 2019

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 three of 2018/19 there were eight major other developments applications with processing agreements, 87.5% (7) of these applications met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. In quarter four there were seven, 57.1% (4) 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 ([Year End, 2018/19 – Table 1](#)).

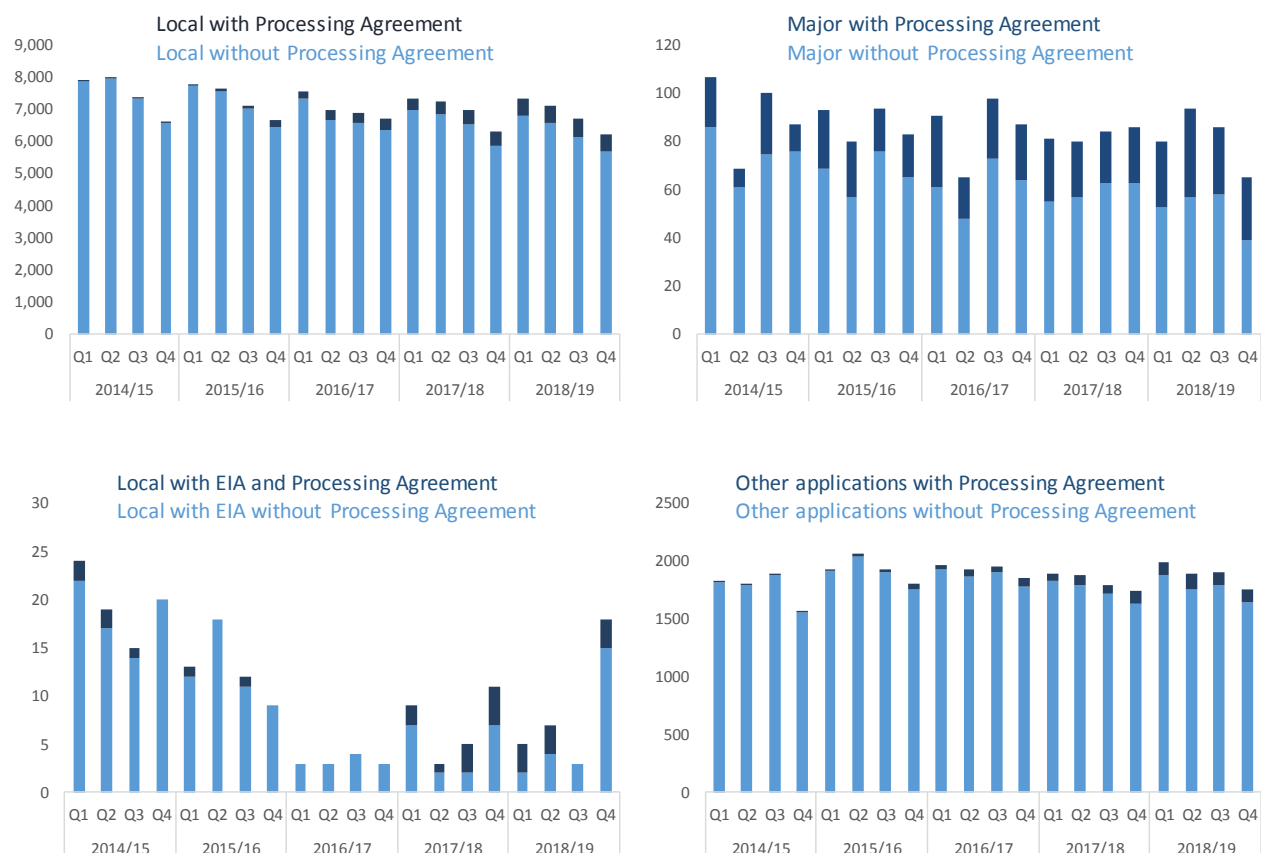
**Table 1: Processing Agreements, 2018/19, Quarter 3 and 4**

Category of development	Quarter 3		Quarter 4	
	Number of Decisions	% Within Agreed Timescales	Number of Decisions	% Within Agreed Timescales
Major Applications	28	78.6%	26	73.1%
Local Applications	546	80.2%	538	76.6%
EIA Developments	0	-	3	100.0%
Other Consents	109	78.9%	113	73.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>683</b>	<b>79.9%</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>76.0%</b>

In the last six months of 2018/19 there were 1,363 applications decided that had processing agreements, 260 (23.6%) more than the same period in the previous year.

In quarter three 7.9% of all applications (683 of 8,696) had processing agreements, in quarter four this increased to 8.4% (680 of 8,070) of all applications having a processing agreement.

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



2018/19 Q2 figures for local applications with processing agreements were updated from 514 to 508 in July 2019.

## 5. Legal Agreements

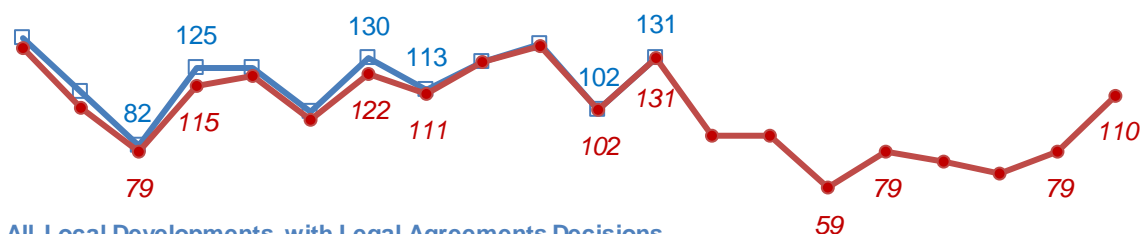
The timescales for applications with legal agreements are dependent on the nature of the application, the particular complexities involved and the willingness of both the applicant and the planning authority to progress the matter at pace.

The figures exclude applications which also had processing agreements.

### 5.1 Local developments with Legal Agreements

In the last six months of 2018/19 there were 189 applications for local developments where planning authorities had planning/legal agreements in place, 51 (37.0%) more than in the same period in the previous year. The average time taken to make decisions on these applications was 35.3 weeks, more than six weeks slower than the 28.9 weeks for the same period in 2017/18.

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



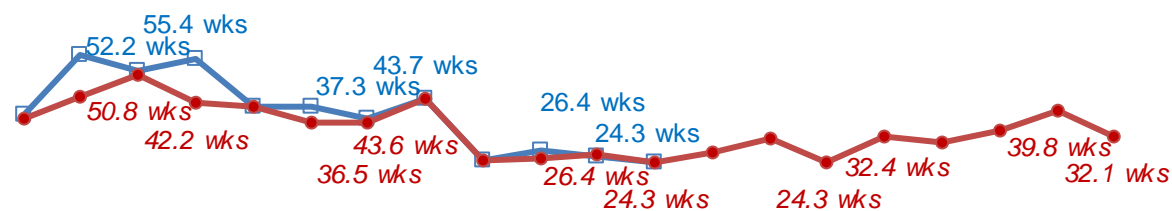
All Local Developments with Legal Agreements Decisions

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			

2018/19 Q2 figures were updated 23 July 2019

**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			

2018/19 Q2 figures were updated 23 July 2019

There were 79 applications with planning/legal agreements for local developments decided in quarter three of 2018/19, 20 (33.9%) more than in the equivalent quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 39.8 weeks, more than 15 weeks slower than the 24.3 weeks for quarter three 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 two years, the longest taking more than four years ([Year End, 2018/19 – Table 3](#)).

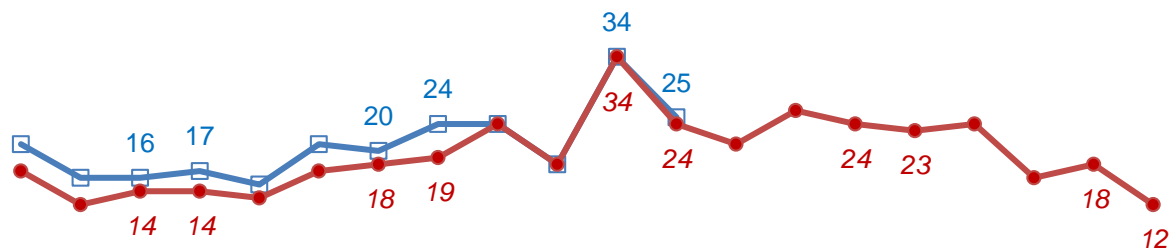


There were 110 applications with planning/legal agreements for local developments decided in quarter four of 2018/19, 31 (39.2%) more than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 32.1 weeks, slightly quicker than the 32.4 weeks for quarter four in the previous year ([Year End, 2018/19 – Table 3](#)). The average decision time was influenced by a number of applications with long decision times including four with times of more than two years, two of which took over six years.

## 5.2 Major developments with Legal Agreements

In the last six months of 2018/19 there were 30 applications for major developments where planning authorities had planning/legal agreements in place, 17 (36.2%) fewer than in the same period in the previous year. The average time taken to make decisions on these applications was 47.2 weeks, more than two weeks slower than the 44.5 weeks for the same period in 2017/18.

**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)**



All Major Developments with Legal Agreements Average Decision Time

Post 3 August 2009 Major 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			

There were 18 major development applications with planning/legal agreements decided in quarter three of 2018/19, six (25.0%) fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 41.6 weeks, just over two weeks slower than the 39.3 weeks for quarter three in the previous year. The average decision time was influenced by a number of applications with long decision times including six with times of more than one year ([Year End, 2018/19 – Table 2](#)).

There were 12 major development applications with planning/legal agreements decided in quarter four of 2018/19, eleven (47.8%) fewer than in the same quarter in the previous year. The average decision time was 55.7 weeks, almost six weeks slower than the 49.9 weeks for quarter two in the previous year. The average decision time was influenced by a number of applications with long decision times including four with times of more than one year, the longest taking 2.8 years ([Year End, 2018/19 – Table 2](#)).

## 6. Approval Rates

The overall rate of approvals for all types of application<sup>4</sup> (including legacy applications and applications with processing agreements) was 93.5% in the third quarter of 2018/19 and 94.0% in quarter four. The corresponding rates were 93.7% and 93.1% for the respective quarters in the previous year ([Year End, 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 and applications with processing agreements) for quarter three, 96.4%, was higher than the rate for the same quarter in the previous year (95.7%). The quarter four rate, 95.6%, was also slightly higher than the equivalent rate (95.4%) the previous year ([Year End, 2018/19 – Table 20](#)).

## 8. Appeals and Local Reviews

Local Review Bodies<sup>5</sup> dealt with 146 cases in the third quarter of 2018/19, 55.5% of which had the original decision upheld. In quarter four there were 155 applications subject to local reviews with 61.9% resulting in the original decision being upheld. In the same period in the previous year 60.9% (of 133 cases) in quarter three and 62.0% (of 142 cases) in quarter four had their original decisions upheld.

In addition 51.1% (of 90 cases) of appeals to Scottish Ministers in quarter three and 50.0% (of 86 cases) in quarter four had the original decision upheld. This compares with 71.4% (of 77 cases) and 60.9% (of 69 cases) respectively for quarter three and quarter four in 2017/18 ([Year End, 2018/19 – Tables 16 & 17](#)).

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<sup>4</sup> Decisions on applications classified as N17 Other consents and certificates are not included in the calculation of approval rates.

<sup>5</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.

## 9. Clock Stops

In the last six months of 2018/19 31 authorities provided information on particular delays for 953 applications that were outwith their control and on which it was agreed it was appropriate to stop the clock for periods of time; 463 in quarter three and 490 in quarter four. Tables 2 and 3 show the number of applications where the clock was stopped by the planning authority for applications decided in quarters three and four 2018/19.

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

Planning Authority	Total applications decided in 2018/19 Q3	Number of applications with clock stopped	Percentage of applications with clock stopped	Average length of time clock stopped (weeks)
Aberdeen City	188	8	4.3%	38.3
Aberdeenshire	489	4	0.8%	3.9
Angus	154	0	0.0%	-
Argyll and Bute	329	16	4.9%	16.8
Cairngorms National Park	1	0	0.0%	-
Clackmannanshire	63	1	1.6%	3.1
Dumfries and Galloway	296	15	5.1%	31.3
Dundee City	178	7	3.9%	30.5
East Ayrshire	125	15	12.0%	9.0
East Dunbartonshire	193	40	20.7%	4.2
East Lothian	295	21	7.1%	7.6
East Renfrewshire	159	3	1.9%	17.6
City of Edinburgh	755	2	0.3%	148.1
Falkirk	139	5	3.6%	8.3
Fife	395	10	2.5%	5.2
Glasgow City	661	88	13.3%	10.4
Highland	746	35	4.7%	26.2
Inverclyde	78	5	6.4%	17.2
Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park	72	25	34.7%	16.7
Midlothian	152	12	7.9%	10.0
Moray	157	37	23.6%	8.5
Na h-Eileanan Siar	99	0	0.0%	-
North Ayrshire	127	6	4.7%	8.5
North Lanarkshire	197	4	2.0%	27.5
Orkney Islands	115	21	18.3%	7.7
Perth and Kinross	415	15	3.6%	14.9
Renfrewshire	160	18	11.3%	10.1
Scottish Borders	192	1	0.5%	3.0
Shetland Islands	67	10	14.9%	5.9
South Ayrshire	216	0	0.0%	-
South Lanarkshire	350	8	2.3%	30.1
Stirling	196	1	0.5%	23.4
West Dunbartonshire	58	17	29.3%	7.7
West Lothian <sup>2</sup>	196	13	6.6%	16.8
<b>SCOTLAND</b>	<b>8,013</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>5.8%</b>	<b>13.7</b>

1. Processing Agreements are not included in this analysis.

2. Legacy cases are not included in this analysis.

**Table 3: Clock stops by planning authority<sup>1,2</sup>, 2018/19, Quarter 4**

<b>Planning Authority</b>	<b>Total applications decided in 2018/19 Q4</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	189	6	3.2%	18.8
Aberdeenshire	417	6	1.4%	2.5
Angus	136	0	0.0%	0.0
Argyll and Bute	287	30	10.5%	15.3
Cairngorms National Park	0	-	-	-
Clackmannanshire	62	6	9.7%	6.8
Dumfries and Galloway	321	13	4.0%	33.4
Dundee City	127	7	5.5%	16.3
East Ayrshire	85	7	8.2%	10.5
East Dunbartonshire	145	30	20.7%	4.1
East Lothian	246	17	6.9%	10.5
East Renfrewshire	136	1	0.7%	55.1
City of Edinburgh	777	4	0.5%	121.8
Falkirk	147	2	1.4%	29.9
Fife	414	1	0.2%	2.7
Glasgow City	542	96	17.7%	11.7
Highland	688	38	5.5%	16.9
Inverclyde	74	11	14.9%	11.1
Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park	80	20	25.0%	12.5
Midlothian	146	18	12.3%	12.2
Moray	128	40	31.3%	8.0
Na h-Eileanan Siar	90	0	0.0%	0.0
North Ayrshire	138	10	7.2%	6.0
North Lanarkshire	155	4	2.6%	90.1
Orkney Islands	98	30	30.6%	8.0
Perth & Kinross	357	14	3.9%	16.5
Renfrewshire	161	31	19.3%	7.6
Scottish Borders	212	3	1.4%	27.2
Shetland Islands	64	4	6.3%	1.8
South Ayrshire	162	2	1.2%	3.8
South Lanarkshire	367	5	1.4%	10.8
Stirling	150	0	0.0%	0.0
West Dunbartonshire	38	14	36.8%	13.5
West Lothian <sup>2</sup>	251	20	8.0%	40.0
<b>SCOTLAND</b>	<b>7,390</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>6.6%</b>	<b>14.5</b>

1. Processing Agreements are not included in this analysis.

2. Legacy cases are not included in this analysis.

## Legacy Cases

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

Tables 4 to 7 show the legacy cases decided in quarters three and four of 2018/19 by planning authority and development type. No legacy applications with processing agreements were concluded during this period.

### Quarter 3, 2018/19

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

Table 4

Local Authority	Number of Legacy Cases	Average Decision Time (weeks)
East Lothian <sup>1</sup>	2	59.1
City of Edinburgh <sup>1</sup>	1	299.3
Falkirk <sup>1</sup>	1	129.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>136.8</b>

Table 5

Development Type	Number of Legacy Cases	Average Decision Time (weeks)
Other Developments - Major <sup>1</sup>	1	129.4
Housing - Local <sup>1</sup>	1	299.3
Other Developments - Local <sup>1</sup>	1	58.0
Listed Building Consent <sup>1</sup>	1	60.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>136.8</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.

### Quarter 4, 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)
East Lothian <sup>1</sup>	1	185.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>185.3</b>

Table 7

Development Type	Number of Legacy Cases	Average Decision Time (weeks)
Housing - Local <sup>1</sup>	1	185.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>185.3</b>

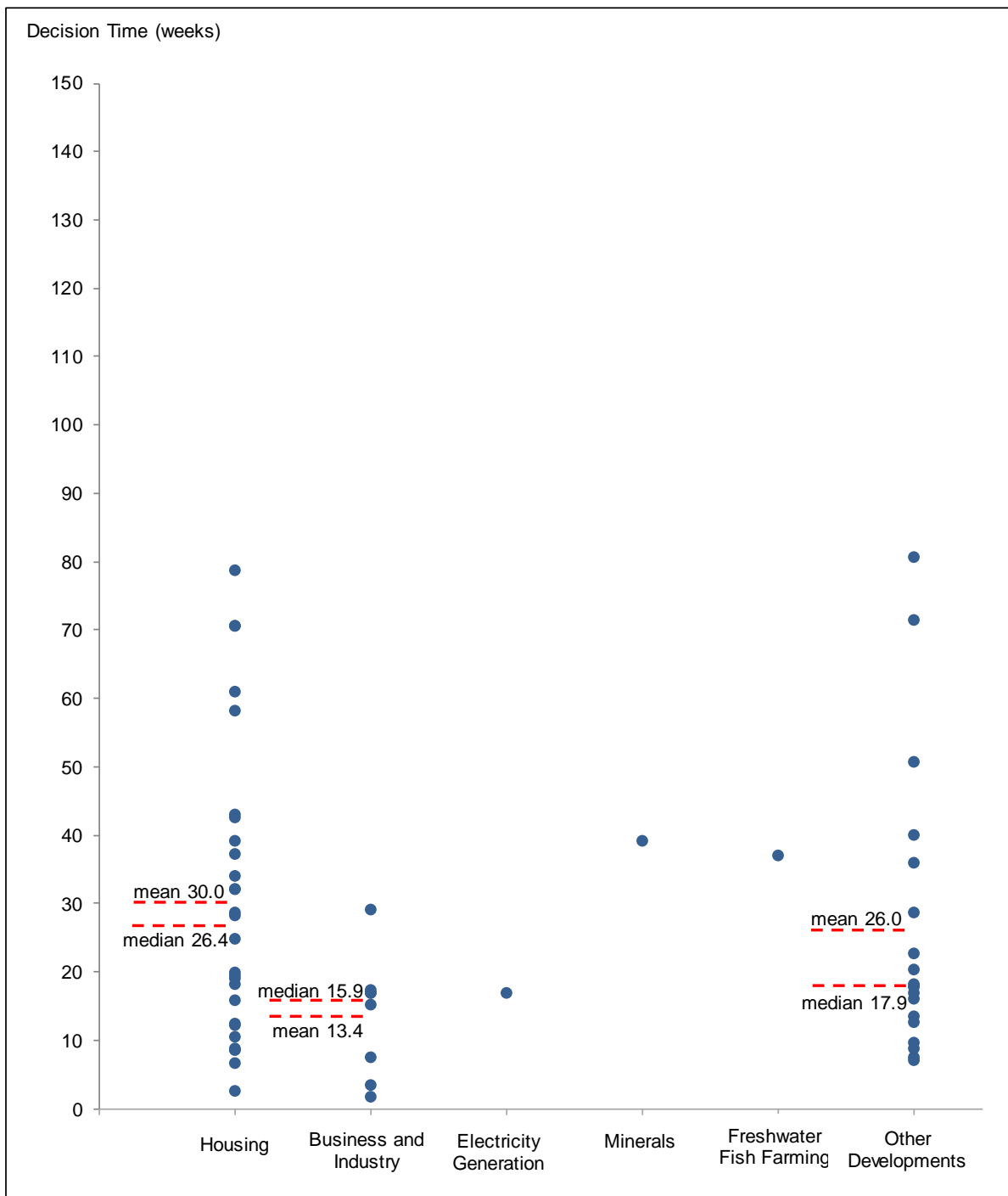
1. These legacy cases had time removed from the decision time calculation where delays were caused by the applicant or external consultees outwith the planning authority's control.



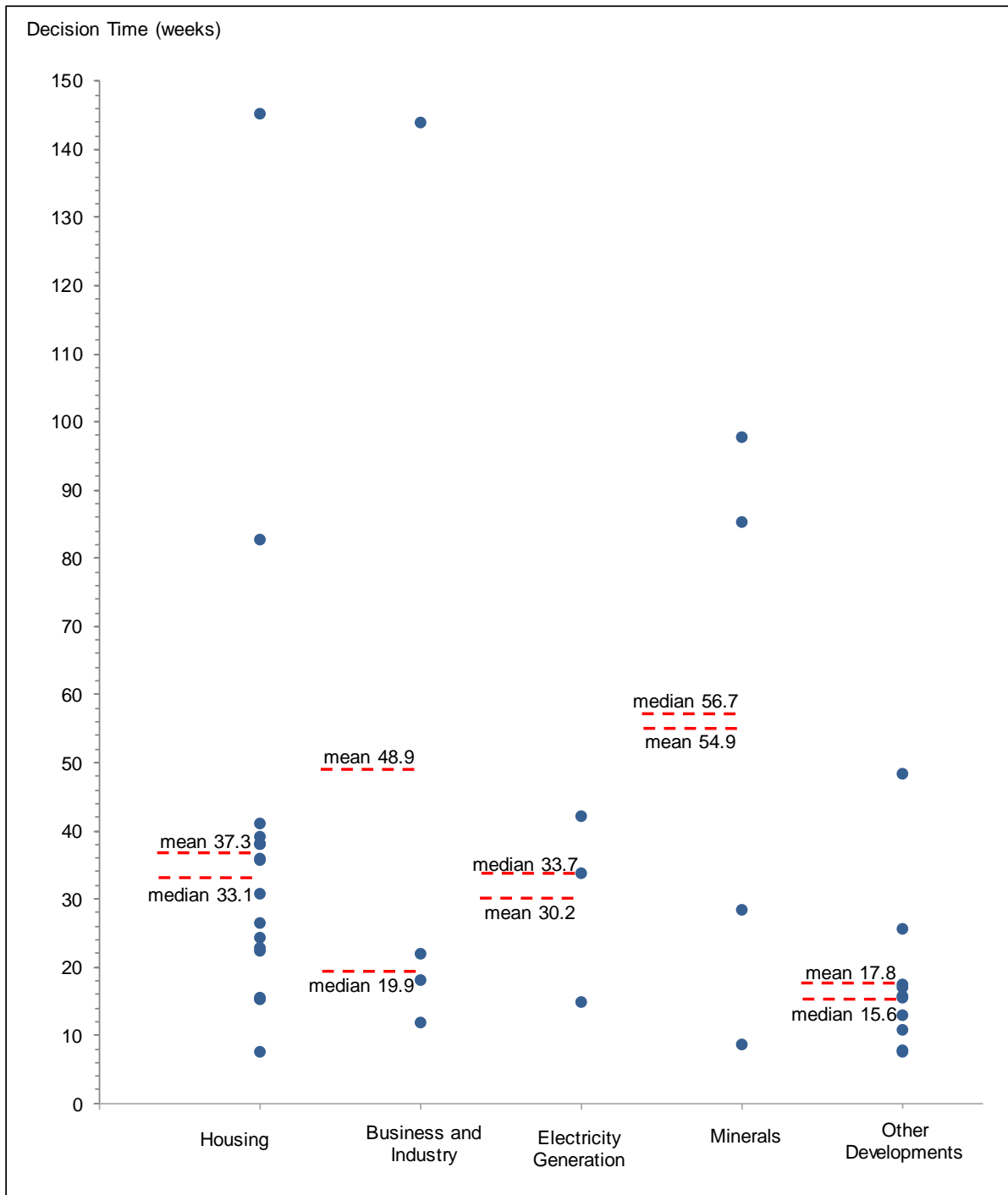
## Annex A – Distribution of Decision Times for Major Applications

The following charts show the distribution of the decision times for major applications that were concluded in quarter three and quarter four 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 three 2018/19 for major applications (excludes one legacy case)**



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



## **All Major Applications**

The average decision time figures of 26.5 and 34.8 weeks for quarters three and four have been influenced by a number of lengthier decision times, including 12 decision times of longer than a year – seven in quarter three and five in quarter four. Two of the five in quarter four had decision times of longer than two years.

## **Housing**

In quarter three five Major Housing applications had decision times of more than one year. The average decision time of 30.0 weeks was significantly influenced by these five applications with longer decision; the average decision time for the remaining 23 applications was 21.8 weeks.

In quarter four, two Major Housing applications had decision times of more than one year, the longest taking 2.7 years. The average decision time of 37.3 weeks was significantly influenced by these two applications with lengthy decision times; the average decision time for the remaining 16 applications was 27.8 weeks.

## **Business and Industry**

In quarter four, one Major Business and Industry application had a decision time of 2.8 years. The average decision time of 48.9 weeks was significantly influenced by these this lengthy decision time; the average decision time for the remaining three applications was 17.2 weeks.

## **Other**

In quarter three there were two Major Other Development applications with decision times of more than one years. The average decision time of 26.0 weeks was significantly influenced by these two applications with long decision times. The average decision time for the remaining 17 applications was 20.1 weeks.

In quarter four while there were no applications with particularly length decision times, 80% (8 out of 10) applications were decided in a time quicker than the 17.8 week average.

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