An Official Statistics publication for Scotland

PEOPLE, COMMUNITIES AND PLACES

Annual Planning Performance Statistics, 2021/22

Contents

1. Introduction

This statistical publication presents summary findings on planning decision-making and timescales for 2017/18 to 2021/22. It is based on data collected twice yearly (midyear - Q1 and Q2 and yearend - Q3 and Q4) by the Scottish Government from planning authorities. A set of annual tables and charts is also produced.

A set of midyear findings is also published at the start of the year. The yearend data are then collected to allow the annual findings to be produced. A set of yearend tables are published alongside the annual tables. A summary of the yearend results are reported as an Annex to this publication.

All the above findings can be found on our web page. Information on quality assurance, revisions policy, uses of the data and historic publications can also be found. View the Scottish Government planning statistics web page.

2. Scottish Government Policy Context

It is important that planning applications are handled and determined efficiently to support certainty and confidence in the planning system. The planning application statistics provide information on the number of planning applications determined by planning authorities (includes: types of application; the average time taken to determine applications; number of applications approved; and enforcement activity) and for Local Review Bodies and Scottish Ministers. The statutory 2 month target for deciding local applications are also reported.

The key objective of the planning statistics is to allow Scottish Government and planning authorities to monitor the performance of planning system with regards to the volume of applications submitted and timeliness of deciding those applications.

These statistics form part of the wider planning performance framework (Go to Planning Performance Framework – Heads Of Planning Scotland web page). Planning application statistics are not the sole indicator of how the planning system or authorities are

performing. Planning applications can be complex and require specialist input, therefore timescales can be affected by a number of factors and it is important to note that delays are not just the responsibility of the authority. Authorities are also encouraged to work with applicants in order to make applications acceptable in planning terms rather than just refusing them at the outset, which can sometimes extend determination timescales.

Everyone involved in planning has a role to play in the effective delivery of the planning service. The Planning Performance Framework offers a balanced measurement of the overall quality of each planning service and is used to promote continuous improvement. The Framework captures key elements of a high-performing planning service and comprises a mix of qualitative and quantitative performance measures which show the variety of work that takes place in authorities, their cross-cutting role and the places that are created through planning and decision-making.

3. Summary of Findings

Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Average decision times tended to be longer in 2021/22 than before the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic continued to cause difficulties for Planning Authorities during the year. Restrictions on travel and site access, staff absence and resource issues affected the processing of applications.

Local Development Applications: More local development applications were decided in 2021/22 (28,596) than before the pandemic (26,585 in 2019/20). However, the percentage decided in two months fell to 62 per cent. (74 per cent in the pre-pandemic year 2019/20.) Some authorities made more use of agreements of timescales to process local applications. The number of processing agreements rose to 3,284 in 2021/22. (1,981 in the pre-pandemic year 2019/20.)

Major Development Applications: In 2021/22 applications for major developments (285) were slightly lower than before the pandemic (307 in 2019/20). This was slightly higher than in the previous year (272 in 2020/21). The average decision time for applications without processing agreement was 44.6 weeks. (33.5 weeks in the pre-pandemic year of

2019/20.) The average decision time for major business and industry applications was slightly shorter in 2021/22 than in 2019/20.

4. General Points to Note

Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic. From mid-March 2020 the planning application processing was impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Some applications have longer decision times due to COVID-19 delays. Impacts differed by authority. These impacts should be considered when making comparisons with earlier years and between authorities.

Uses of the Statistics. The statistics allow Scottish Government and the planning authorities to monitor the time taken to decide planning applications. More uses are listed on our web pages. View Scottish Government planning statistics web page.

Legacy Cases.   On 3rd August 2009 changes were made to the statutory development management system and handling of planning applications. A few legacy cases from before then remain but they can have a large effect on average decision times. Therefore they are not included in the main analysis. They are reported separately in tables in the supporting spreadsheet file.

Categories of Planning Applications. For planning applications, developments are put into one of five categories: local, major, other, Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and national. This publication covers the first four as national developments are dealt with by Scottish Government Ministers.

Local developments include applications for changes to individual houses, smaller developments of less than 50 homes, less than 2 hectares and less than 20 megawatts. Major developments include applications for 50 or more homes, greater than 2 hectares or more than 20 megawatts.

The full range of applications can include changes to properties, new builds, minerals, business & industry, waste management, electricity generation, freshwater fish farming, marine finfish farming, marine shellfish farming, telecommunications, Approval of Matters

Specified in Conditions, Prior Notifications and other developments. The classification of all development types can be found in the planning series circular Go to Hierarchy of Developments web page.

Small Numbers. Typically there are only a small number of decisions made for major developments each quarter and therefore average decision times are likely to vary greatly.

Calculation of Decision Times. The average decision time in weeks is calculated in days from the date of validation (the date when the final piece of information for an application is received) to the date the decision is issued. The average weeks are then calculated by dividing the number of days by seven. Some local authorities use processing agreements where the developer and the local authority agree on timescales for decisions. These are not included in average decision times.

Stopping the Clock. In some cases it is appropriate to remove a length of time from the total decision time. "Stopping the clock" is used where there has been a lengthy delay caused by the applicant or external consultees. This is not under the planning authority's control and the authority cannot progress with an application.

Revisions. The revisions policy for planning performance statistics has been developed in accordance with the UK Statistics Authority Code of practice for Official Statistics. It can be found on our web pages. View Scottish Government planning statistics web page.

Details for all categories of development are available in the tables in the supporting spreadsheet file for this publication. All files for the publication can be found on our web page. View Scottish Government planning statistics webpage.

5. Local Developments

Local developments include applications for changes to houses and smaller developments for new housing. They also include 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.

Some authorities use processing agreements where the developer and the authority agree on timescales for decisions. When an application is subject to a processing agreement it is not included in average decision time calculations.

5.1.   All Local Developments

There were 28,596 local development applications decided in 2021/22, slightly higher than before the COVID-19 pandemic. This followed a dip in 2020/21 when numbers of applications were lower at the beginning of pandemic restrictions. Applications without processing agreements had an average decision time of 10.8 weeks. In 2019/20, before the pandemic, the average time was 9.1 weeks.

Chart 1: All Local Developments

Average Decision Times (applications without processing agreements)

9.0 wks   9.0 wks   9.1 wks   10.0 wks   10.8 wks

2020/21 and 2021/22 affected by COVID-19 pandemic

Year	Decisions with processing agreements	Decisions without processing agreements
2017/18	1,671	26,220
2018/19	2,129	25,245
2019/20	1,981	24,604
2020/21	2,551	21,897
2021/22	3,284	25,312

☐ Decisions with processing agreements

☐ Decisions without processing agreements

Stautory time period for local applications

Under planning regulations, authorities should determine applications for local developments within two months of the validation date. This is the date when the last piece of information on the content is received. More information is available in the planning circular on development management procedures.

[View web page for planning series circular 3 2013 development management procedures](#)

The percentage decided within two months in 2021/22 was 62%. This is lower than before the pandemic when around 74% were decided within two months. Where these applications were from householders making changes to their properties, the percentage was higher at 72%.

Chart 2: All Local Developments: Percentage under two months

2020/21 and 2021/22 affected by COVID-19 pandemic

74.1%　　75.1%　　74.1%　　67.8%　　62.1%

2017/18　　2018/19　　2019/20　　2020/21　　2021/22
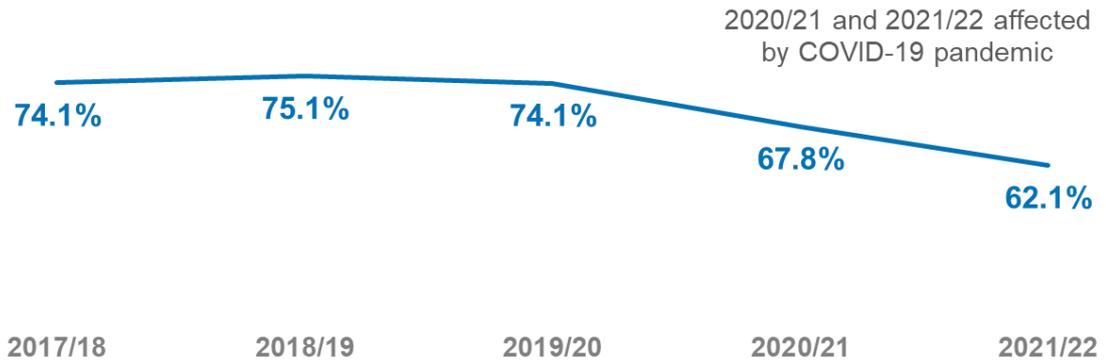
In 2021/22, there were 3,284 local development applications with processing agreements. Three quarters (75%) met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and planning authorities. There has been a rise in the number of local applications with processing agreements over the last two years. Some authorities reported increased use of processing agreements to help manage the impact of COVID-19 restrictions and delays.

Chart 3: Applications for Local Developments with processing agreements

Percentage processed within agreed timescales

79.5%   76.6%   79.6%   74.4%   74.8%

3,284

2,551

2,129

1,981   2020/21 and 2021/22 affected
             by COVID-19 pandemic

1,671

Local Applications with Processing Agreements

2017/18   2018/19   2019/20   2020/21   2021/22
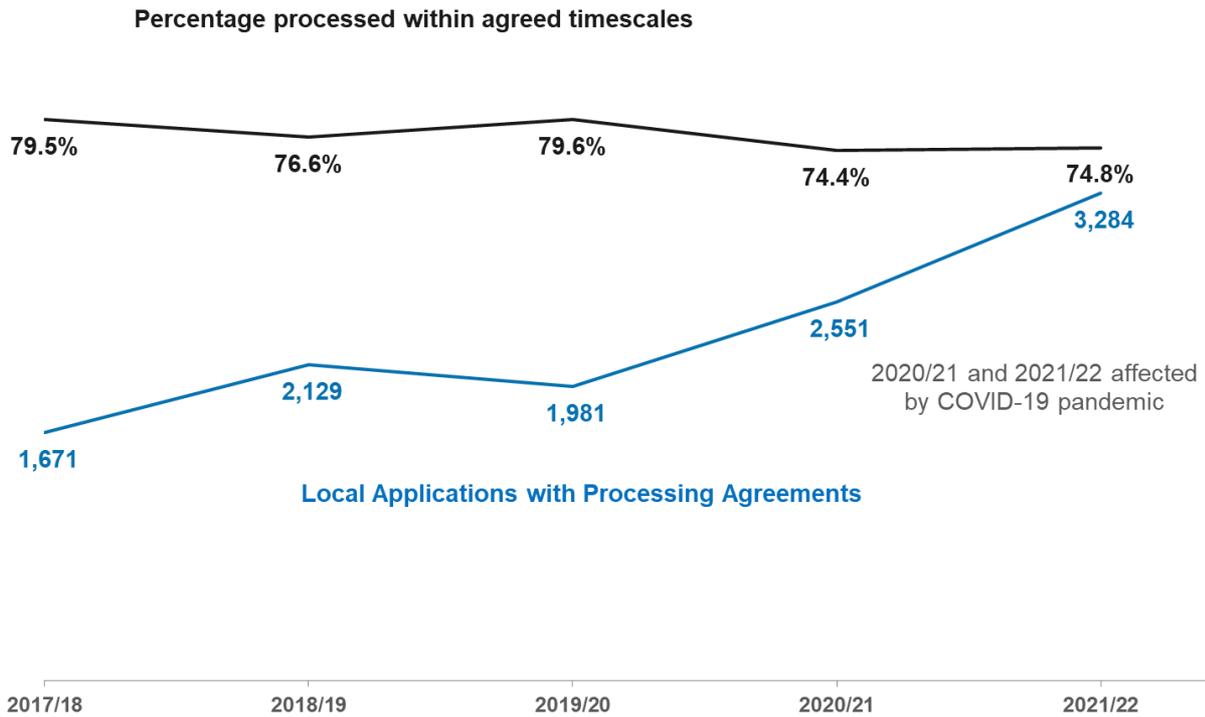
5.2. Local Housing Developments

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

There was an increase in local housing applications to 4,608 in 2021/22 compared to the previous year. Over the longer term the numbers of these applications has been gradually falling.

Chart 4: Local Housing Developments

Average Decision Times (applications without processing agreements)

15.7 wks

14.2 wks

12.2 wks   12.3 wks   12.4 wks

2020/21 and 2021/22 affected
by COVID-19 pandemic

642	660	639	696	727
4,768	4,648	4,123	3,476	3,881
2017/18	**2018/19**	**2019/20**	**2020/21**	**2021/22**

☐ **Decisions with processing agreements**

■ **Decisions without processing agreements**
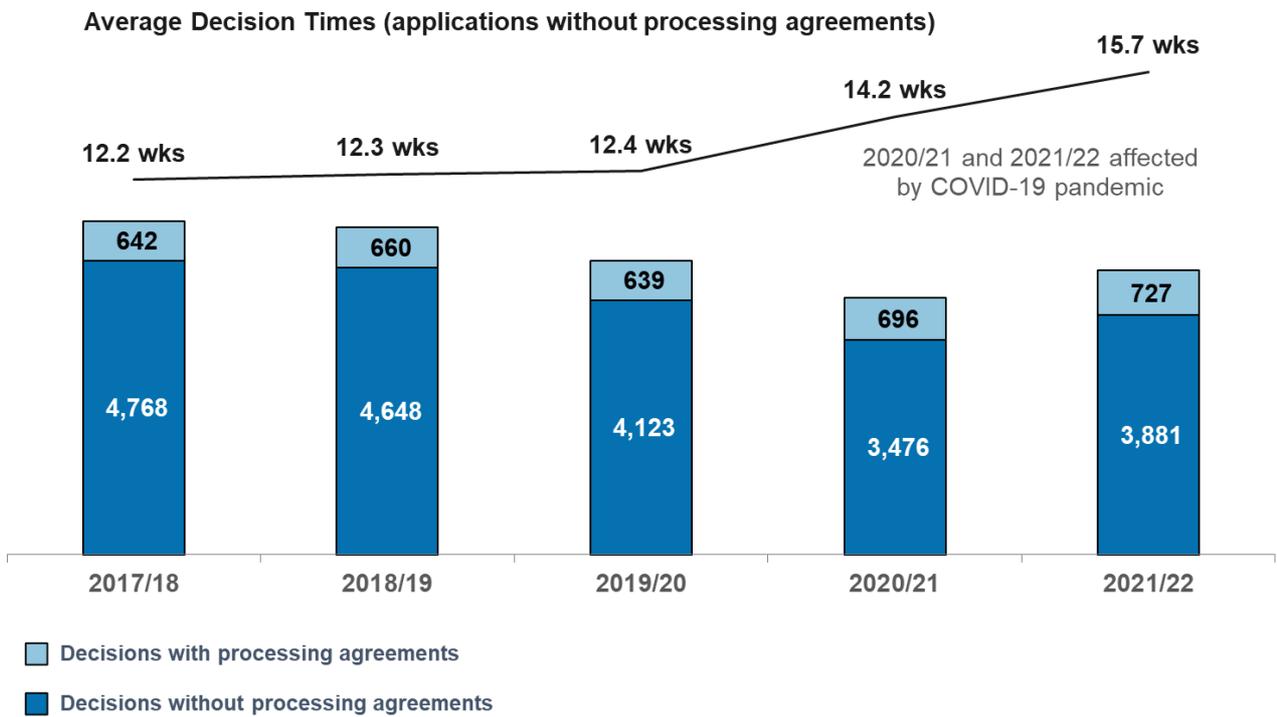
The applications not subject to processing agreements have had longer average decision times during 2020/21 and 2021/22. In 2021/22, the average time was 15.7 weeks and only 42% were decided within two months.

Chart 5: Local Housing Developments: Percentage under two months

2020/21 and 2021/22 affected
by COVID-19 pandemic

54.9%   56.7%   55.8%

49.5%

41.8%

2017/18	**2018/19**	**2019/20**	**2020/21**	**2021/22**

11
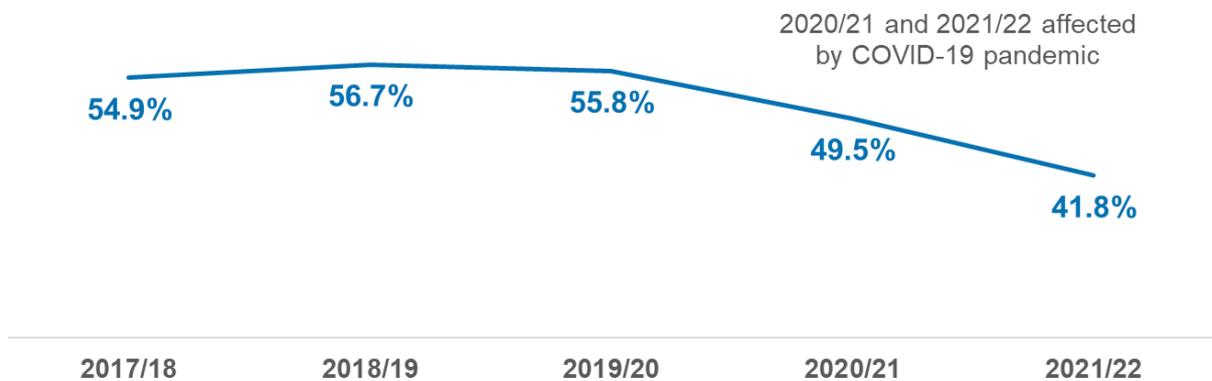
There can be some long decision times for local housing developments. Very long decision times affect the average (mean). The middle value (median) of decision times was lower than the average (15.7 wks) at 9.7 weeks.

727 local housing applications with processing agreements were determined. Two-thirds (66%) of these met timescales agreed between developers and local authorities.

5.3. 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 must not be more than 10,000 square metres and the site area must be less than 2 hectares.

The number of local business and industry applications rose to 1,604 in 2021/22. There had been a declining trend over previous years. Average decision times for those applications not subject to processing agreements were longer in the years affected by pandemic-related pressures. The average decision time was 11.7 weeks in 2021/22. The percentage decided within two months fell to 53% in 2021/22.

Chart 6: Local Business and Industry Developments: Number of decisions

Average Decision Times (applications without processing agreements)

- 9.5 wks — 2017/18
- 9.1 wks — 2018/19
- 10.0 wks — 2019/20
- 10.6 wks — 2020/21
- 11.7 wks — 2021/22

2020/21 and 2021/22 affected by COVID-19 pandemic

Year	Decisions with processing agreements	Decisions without processing agreements
2017/18	111	1,609
2018/19	113	1,478
2019/20	119	1,275
2020/21	168	1,239
2021/22	187	1,417

☐ Decisions with processing agreements
■ Decisions without processing agreements
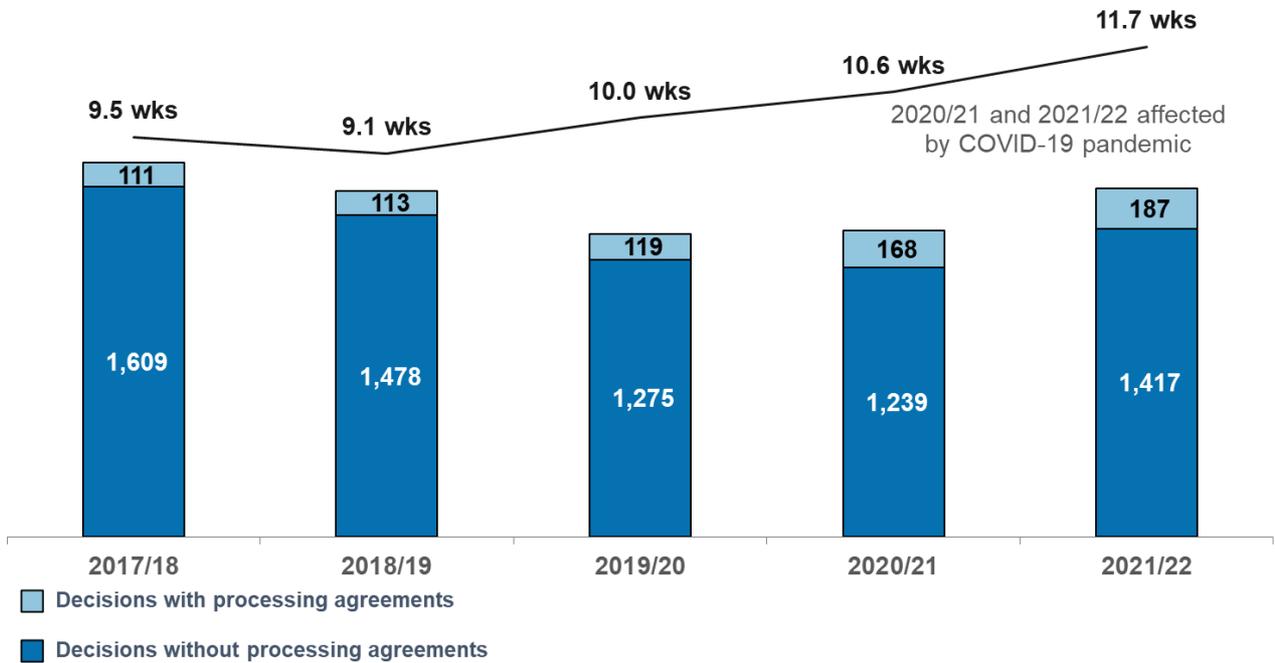
Chart 7: Local Business and Industry Developments: Percentage under two months

2020/21 and 2021/22 affected by COVID-19 pandemic

- 69.4% — 2017/18
- 70.2% — 2018/19
- 68.2% — 2019/20
- 62.2% — 2020/21
- 53.1% — 2021/22
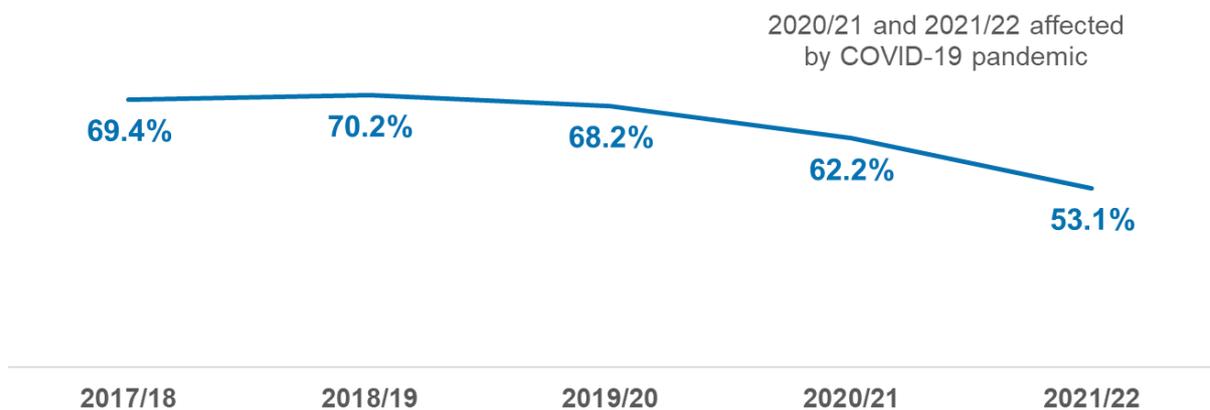
187 local business and industry applications with processing agreements were determined. Two-thirds (66%) of these met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities.

5.4. Local Applications by Development Type

More than half (55%) of all local applications were from householders making changes to their properties. These applications had the shortest average decision time of 8.7 weeks for those without processing agreements.

Chart 8: Local Developments by Development Type

Development Type	Without processing agreements	With processing agreements
Householder	14,326	1,429
Other Developments	5,087	816
Housing	3,881	727
Business and Industry	1,417	187
AMSCs	257	79
Telecommunications	186	18
Electricity Generation	89	17
Fish Farming	28	2
Minerals	21	7
Waste Management	20	2

Total decisions 28,596
25,312 without processing agreements
3,284 with processing agreements

Chart 9: Local Developments by Development Type: Average decision time (weeks)

Development Type	Average decision time
Householder	8.7 wks
Other Developments	12.2 wks
Housing	15.7 wks
Business and Industry	11.7 wks
AMSCs	17.0 wks
Telecommunications	9.8 wks
Electricity Generation	17.2 wks
Fish Farming	12.1 wks
Minerals	12.0 wks
Waste Management	12.4 wks
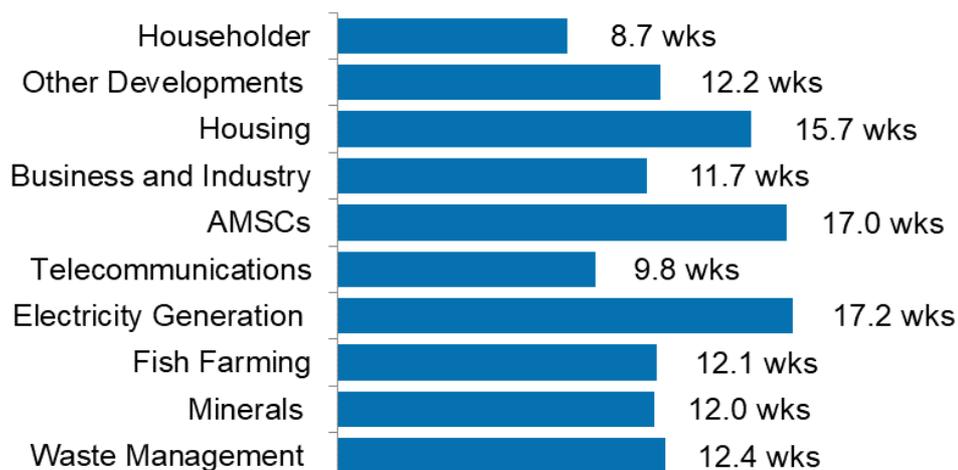
Average decision time for applications without processing agreements 10.8 weeks
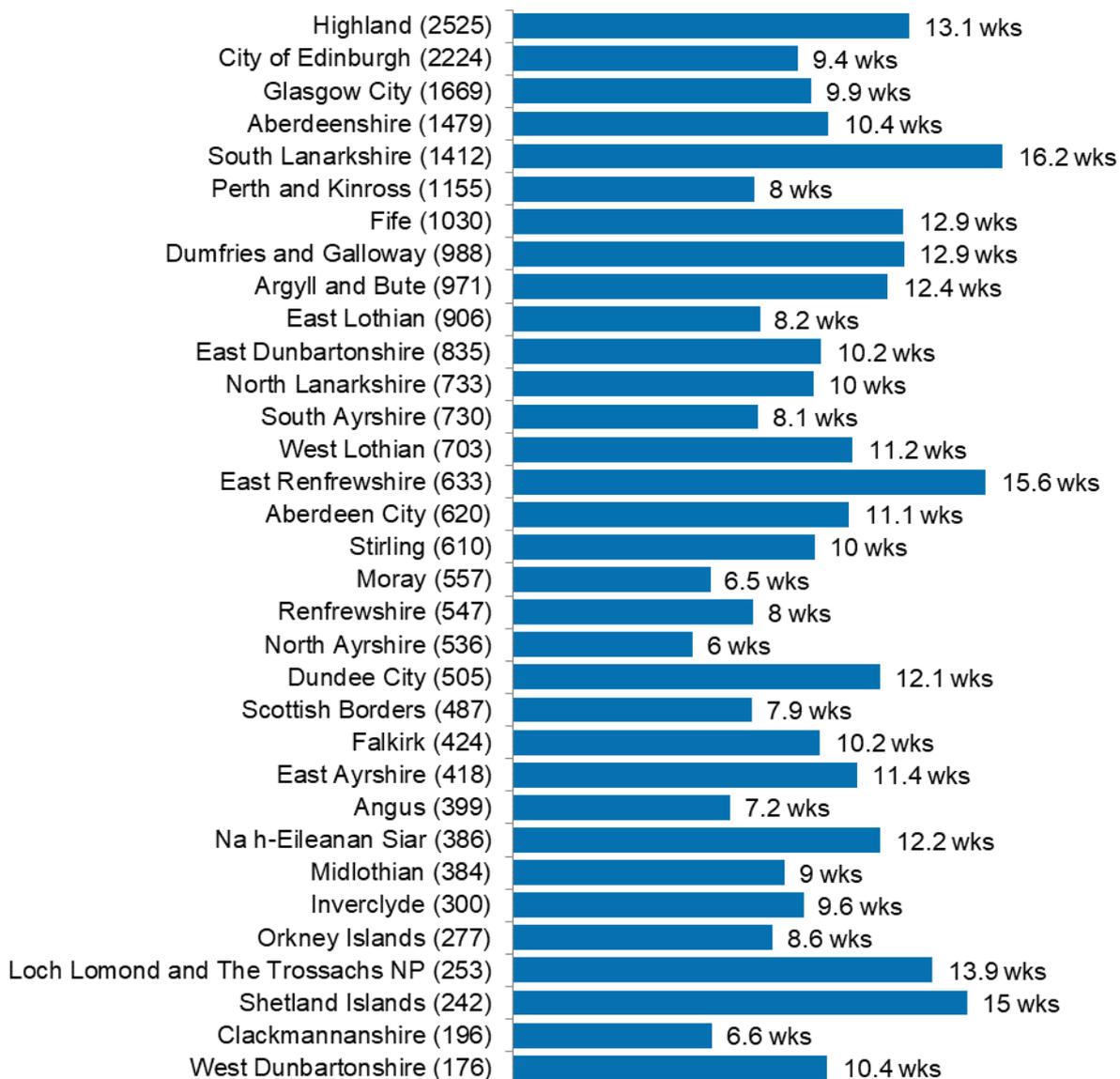
14

5.5. Local Applications by Planning Authority: Average decision time

Chart 10 shows the average decision times for local developments without processing agreements. This has been ordered by the number of decisions in each planning authority.

Chart 10: Local Developments by Planning Authority: Average decision time (weeks)

Planning Authority	Average decision time
Highland (2525)	13.1 wks
City of Edinburgh (2224)	9.4 wks
Glasgow City (1669)	9.9 wks
Aberdeenshire (1479)	10.4 wks
South Lanarkshire (1412)	16.2 wks
Perth and Kinross (1155)	8 wks
Fife (1030)	12.9 wks
Dumfries and Galloway (988)	12.9 wks
Argyll and Bute (971)	12.4 wks
East Lothian (906)	8.2 wks
East Dunbartonshire (835)	10.2 wks
North Lanarkshire (733)	10 wks
South Ayrshire (730)	8.1 wks
West Lothian (703)	11.2 wks
East Renfrewshire (633)	15.6 wks
Aberdeen City (620)	11.1 wks
Stirling (610)	10 wks
Moray (557)	6.5 wks
Renfrewshire (547)	8 wks
North Ayrshire (536)	6 wks
Dundee City (505)	12.1 wks
Scottish Borders (487)	7.9 wks
Falkirk (424)	10.2 wks
East Ayrshire (418)	11.4 wks
Angus (399)	7.2 wks
Na h-Eileanan Siar (386)	12.2 wks
Midlothian (384)	9 wks
Inverclyde (300)	9.6 wks
Orkney Islands (277)	8.6 wks
Loch Lomond and The Trossachs NP (253)	13.9 wks
Shetland Islands (242)	15 wks
Clackmannanshire (196)	6.6 wks
West Dunbartonshire (176)	10.4 wks

The number in brackets is the number of local development decisions not subject to processing agreements by planning authority.

The number of applications and average decision time for the Cairngorms National Park has not been shown in Chart 10. Cairngorms are notified of applications which have been made to those planning authorities within the National Park boundaries. Cairngorms National Park may then decide to call applications in for their determination. This can cause longer decision times.

6. Major Developments

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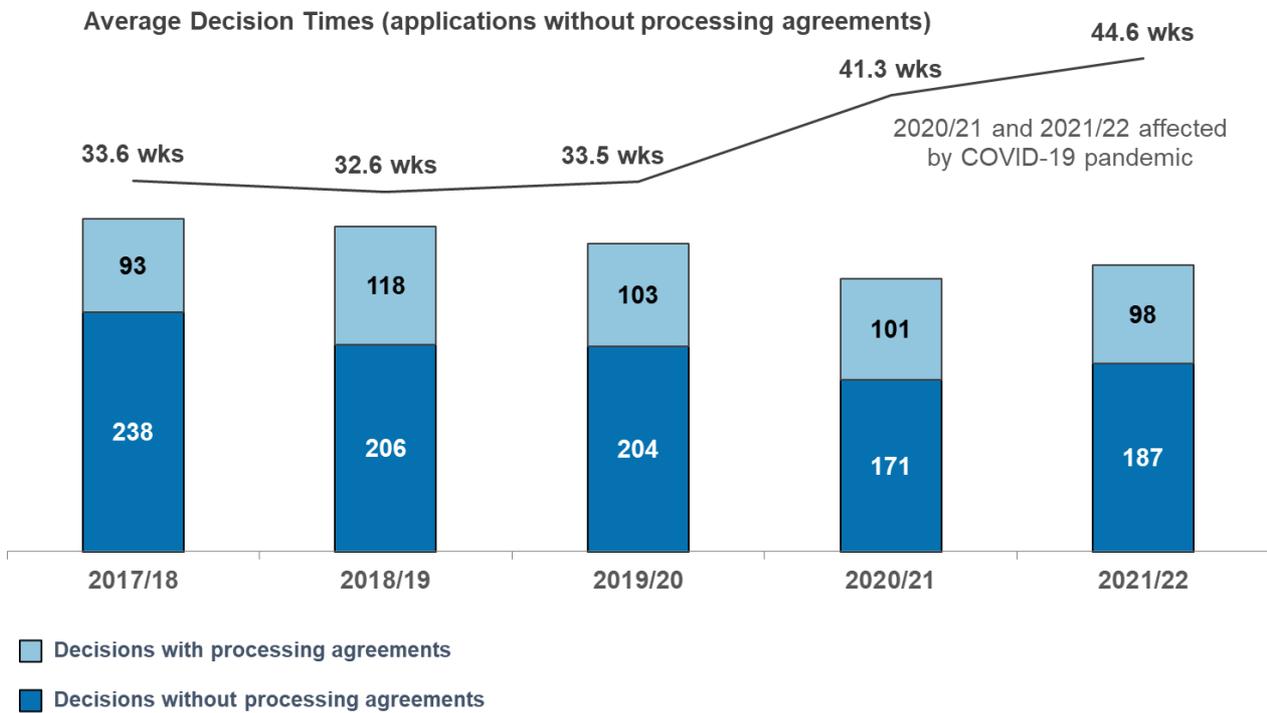
Classification between local and major developments depends on the particular development type. For example, housing developments are classed as major when the application is for 50 or more dwellings or for a site that exceeds two hectares, whereas electricity generation is classed as major when the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

6.1. All Major Developments

There were 285 major development applications determined in 2021/22, a slight rise on 2020/21. The longer term trend is declining numbers of major applications. Those not subject to processing agreements had an average decision time of 44.6 weeks. Average decision times have been longer in the years affected by pandemic-related pressures.
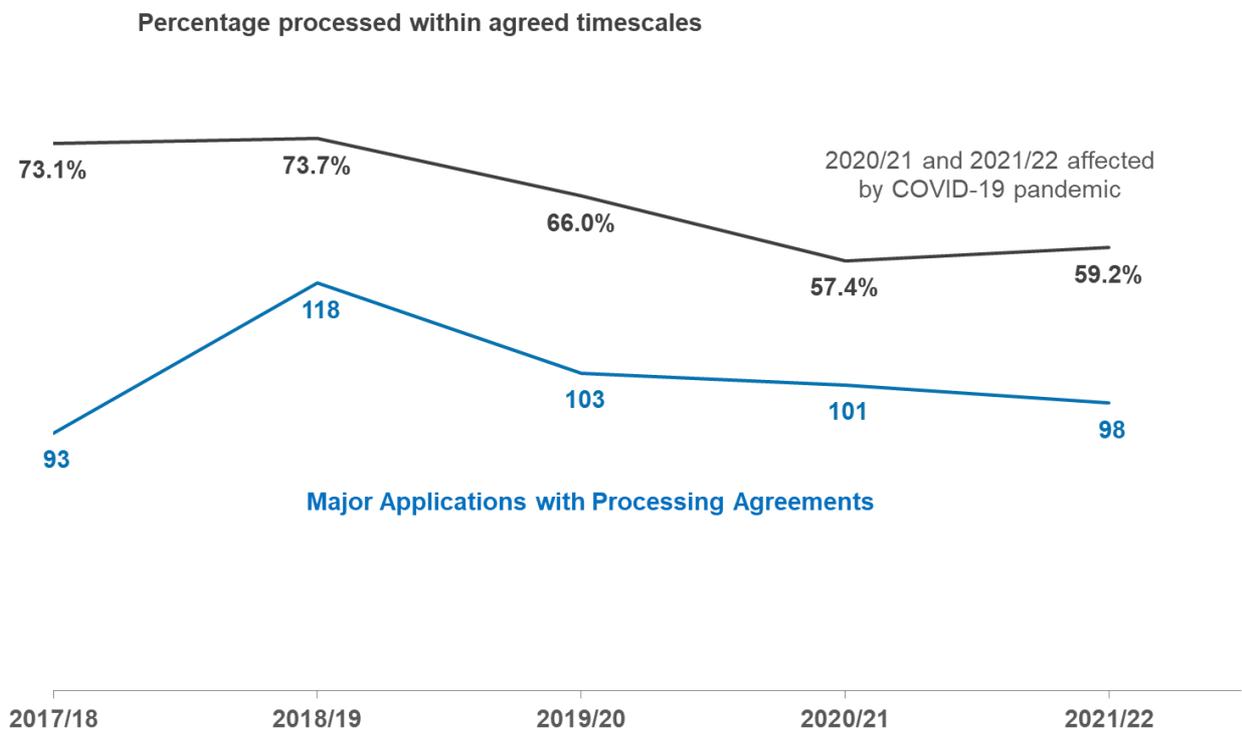
It is common for major applications to take a long time to be decided. This will depend on the details of the development. Very long decision times affect the average (mean). The middle value (median) of decision times for major applications was much lower than the average (44.6 wks) at 27.7 weeks.

Chart 11: All Major Developments

Average Decision Times (applications without processing agreements)

44.6 wks

41.3 wks

33.6 wks　　　　　**32.6 wks**　　　　　**33.5 wks**

2020/21 and 2021/22 affected
by COVID-19 pandemic

	93	118	103	101	98
238	206	204	171	187
2017/18	**2018/19**	**2019/20**	**2020/21**	**2021/22**

- ☐ Decisions with processing agreements
- ■ Decisions without processing agreements

In 2021/22 there were 98 major development applications with processing agreements, 59% of these met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. The percentage meeting timescales has been lower during the last two years than in prior years. Again, this is likely to be due to the unpredictable impacts of the pandemic. Processing agreements are typically used for about a third of all major development applications. This is a higher rate than for local applications.

Chart 12: Applications for Major Developments with processing agreements

Percentage processed within agreed timescales

73.1%   73.7%

66.0%

2020/21 and 2021/22 affected
by COVID-19 pandemic

57.4%   59.2%

118

103   101

98

93

Major Applications with Processing Agreements

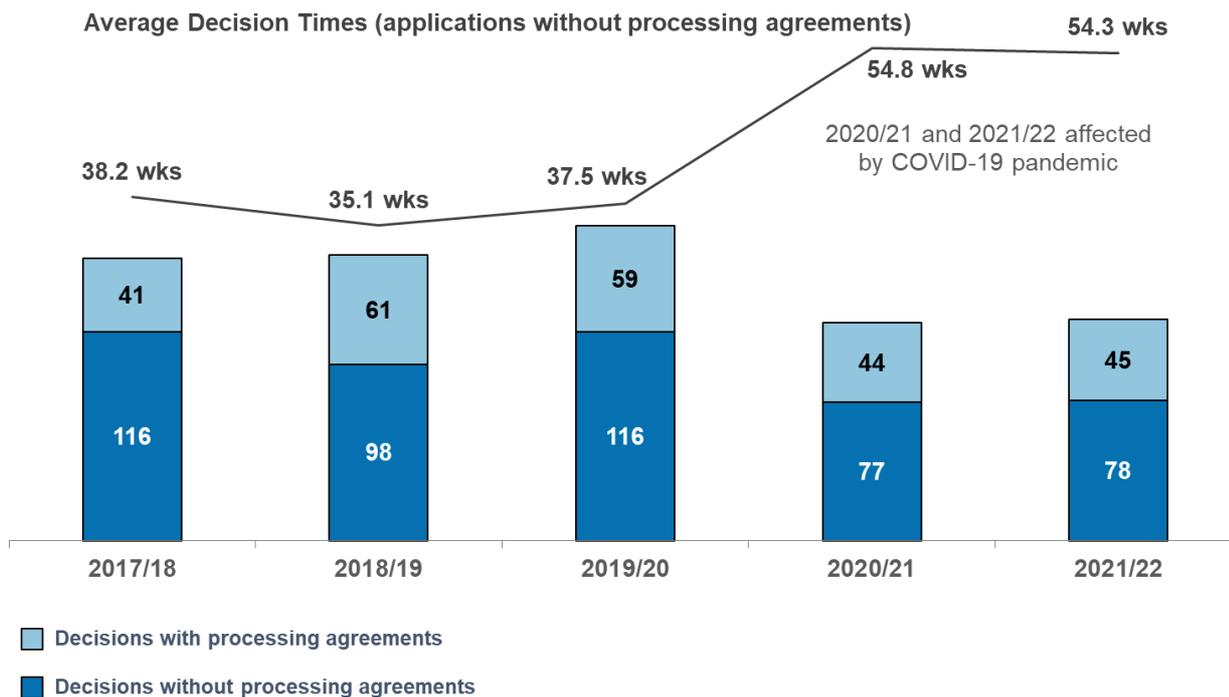| 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 |

6.2.   Major Housing Developments

Major housing developments are those with 50 or more dwellings or with a site area of 2 hectares or more where the main use is for housing.

There were 123 major housing development applications determined in 2021/22. Applications have been relatively low in the past two years, falling by about a quarter from 2019/20. Those not subject to processing agreements had an average decision time of 54.3 weeks. This is markedly longer than in 2019/20 (37.5 wks).

Again, very long decision times affect the average (mean) for these developments. The middle value (median) of decision times for major applications was much lower than the average (54.3 wks) at 32.6 weeks.

There were 45 Major Housing development applications with processing agreements, under half (49%) of these met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities.

Chart 13: Major Housing Developments

Average Decision Times (applications without processing agreements)

2020/21 and 2021/22 affected by COVID-19 pandemic

| Year | 38.2 wks | 35.1 wks | 37.5 wks | 54.8 wks | 54.3 wks |

Decisions with processing agreements
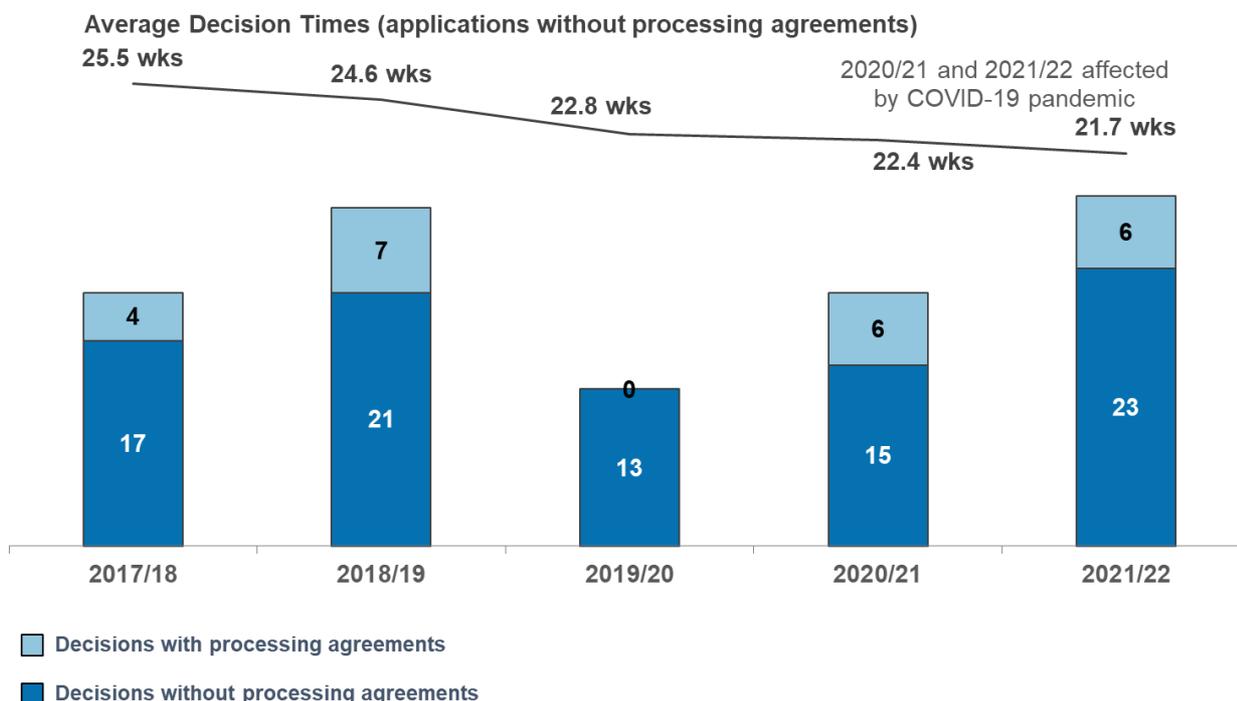Decisions without processing agreements

6.3. Major Business and Industry Developments

These 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 must exceed 10,000 square metres or the site must exceed 2 hectares.

There were 29 major business and industry development applications determined in 2021/22, eight more than in the previous year. Those not subject to processing agreements had an average decision time of 21.7 weeks. Unlike the pattern for other types of development this was shorter than prior years.

There were six major business and industry development applications with processing agreements, 83.3% of these met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities.

Chart 14: Major Business and Industry Developments

Average Decision Times (applications without processing agreements)

25.5 wks   24.6 wks   22.8 wks   2020/21 and 2021/22 affected by COVID-19 pandemic   21.7 wks   22.4 wks

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Decisions with processing agreements	4	7	0	6	6
Decisions without processing agreements	17	21	13	15	23

☐ Decisions with processing agreements
■ Decisions without processing agreements

6.4. Major Applications by Development Type

The shortest average decision time of 21.7 weeks was for business and industry developments (10% of all major developments). The longest average decision time was for housing applications (54.3 weeks, 43% of all major developments).

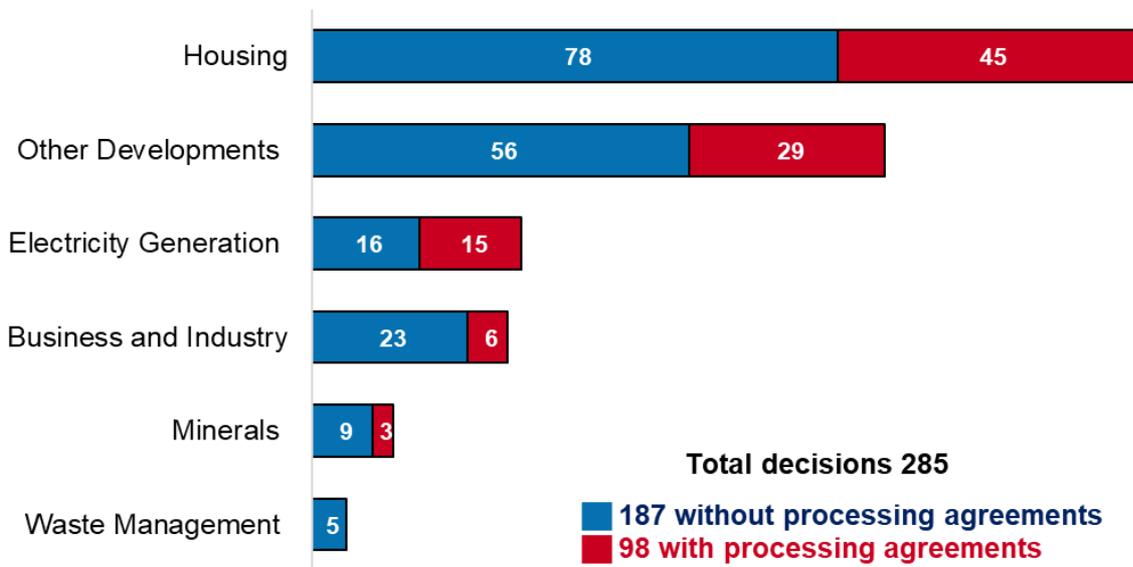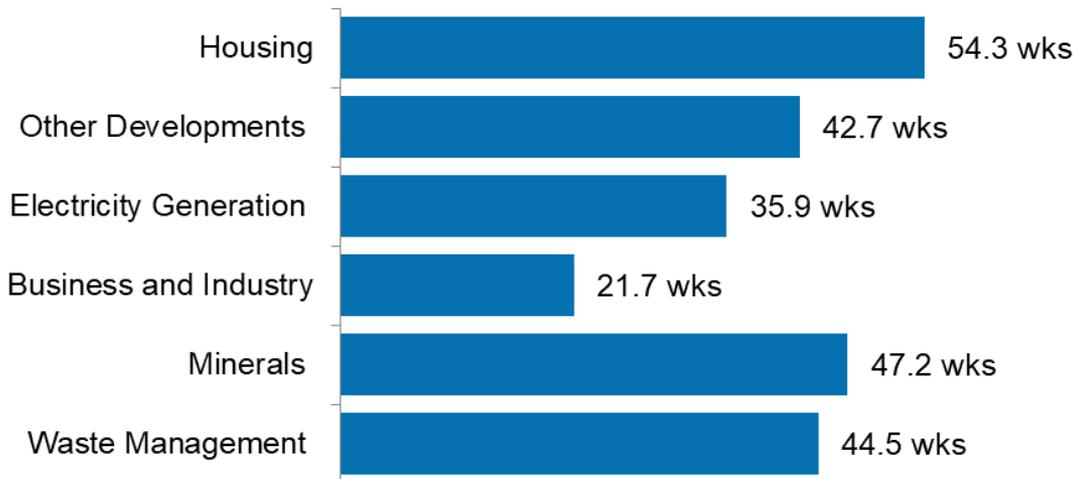**Chart 15: Major Developments by Development Type: Number of decisions**

Development Type	Without processing agreements	With processing agreements
Housing	78	45
Other Developments	56	29
Electricity Generation	16	15
Business and Industry	23	6
Minerals	9	3
Waste Management	5	

Total decisions 285
■ **187 without processing agreements**
■ **98 with processing agreements**

Chart 16: Major Developments by Development Type: Average decision time (weeks)

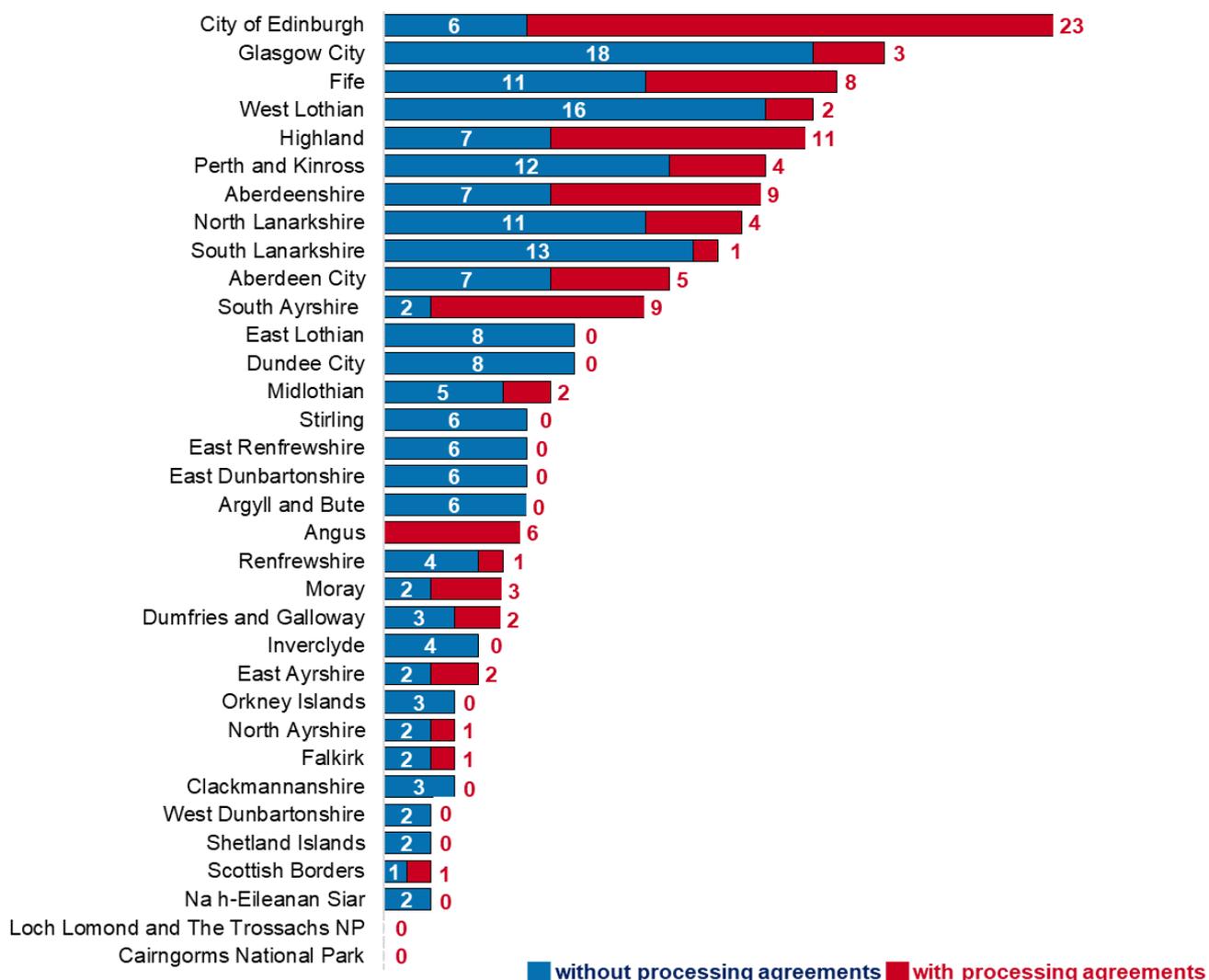| Development Type	Average decision time
Housing	54.3 wks
Other Developments	42.7 wks
Electricity Generation	35.9 wks
Business and Industry	21.7 wks
Minerals	47.2 wks
Waste Management	44.5 wks

Average decision time for applications without processing agreements 44.6 weeks

6.5.   Major Applications by Planning Authority

Numbers of decisions made for major developments are very small compared to those for local developments. Chart 17 shows the numbers by Planning Authority. Average decision times will vary widely and a single application can have a large effect on the average.

Chart 17: Major Developments by Planning Authority: Number of decisions

Planning Authority	without processing agreements	with processing agreements
City of Edinburgh	6	23
Glasgow City	18	3
Fife	11	8
West Lothian	16	2
Highland	7	11
Perth and Kinross	12	4
Aberdeenshire	7	9
North Lanarkshire	11	4
South Lanarkshire	13	1
Aberdeen City	7	5
South Ayrshire	2	9
East Lothian	8	0
Dundee City	8	0
Midlothian	5	2
Stirling	6	0
East Renfrewshire	6	0
East Dunbartonshire	6	0
Argyll and Bute	6	0
Angus		6
Renfrewshire	4	1
Moray	2	3
Dumfries and Galloway	3	2
Inverclyde	4	0
East Ayrshire	2	2
Orkney Islands	3	0
North Ayrshire	2	1
Falkirk	2	1
Clackmannanshire	3	0
West Dunbartonshire	2	0
Shetland Islands	2	0
Scottish Borders	1	1
Na h-Eileanan Siar	2	0
Loch Lomond and The Trossachs NP	0	
Cairngorms National Park	0	

7. Delegation and Approval Rates

Schemes of Delegation identify who makes the decision on different types of planning application, whether it be an appointed officer or elected members. This also influences the route for any subsequent appeal. These schemes are required by legislation and are available on the websites of each planning authority. The delegation rate measures the proportion of planning decisions that are made by appointed officers.

The delegation rate for 2021/22 was 96.5%. This rate has been increasing slightly in recent years.

The overall rate of approval of applications was 94.3%. The approval rate has been around 94% for many years.

8. Appeals, Local Reviews and Enforcement

If an applicant does not agree with the decision of a planning authority then they can ask for a review or appeal of the decision. They can also ask for a review or appeal if the authority doesn't make a decision within the time period set by law.

If the application was decided by a planning officer on behalf of the authority, then the decision is reviewed by the Local Review Body. Local Review Bodies have three or more elected members from the planning authority. They review decisions on planning applications for certain types of development taken by officers. 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 there are conditions on a consent.

If the application was decided by councillors, then the appeal is made to Scottish Ministers.

Local Review Bodies dealt with 481 cases in 2021/22. The original decision was upheld in 53% of cases. There were 278 appeals to Scottish Ministers in 2021/22 with 51% having the original decision upheld.

Enforcement action can be carried out when developments happen without permission. This can also be done when conditions have not been followed. Authorities have powers to serve notices asking for more information about a development. Authorities can stop a development happening without permission or not following conditions. The Authority can also issue a fixed penalty or refer to the Procurator Fiscal.

In 2021/22 there were 5,339 enforcement cases. There were 415 notices served. No reports were made to the Procurator Fiscal. Two cases resulted in prosecution.

9. 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. This helps produce more accurate performance statistics that would otherwise have been skewed by extreme cases of delay outwith the planning authority's control. Clock stops were not used where there was a delay to authority processing as a result of the impact of COVID-19 restrictions.

For 2021/22 there were 2,237 applications where the clock was stopped. The average amount of time stopped was 14.2 weeks.

Local development decisions (not subject to processing agreements) involved a clock-stop in seven per cent of cases. The average clock-stop time was 13.5 weeks.

Major development decisions (not subject to processing agreements) involved a clock-stop in just under a quarter (24%) of cases. The average clock-stop time was 56.6 weeks.

Annex A – Yearend 2021/22 Key Findings

1. Local Developments

1.1. All Local Developments

There were 13,565 decisions on local developments in the last two quarters of 2021/22. This was slightly higher than the same period in 2019/20. In 2021/22 the pattern over quarters returned to highest numbers in Q1 (Apr to Jun) with numbers falling each subsequent quarter. The average decision time for applications not subject to processing agreements rose in Q3 and Q4 to 11.7 weeks in Q4. Pressures due to the pandemic continued to affect Authorities.

Chart 18: Quarterly Applications for Local Developments
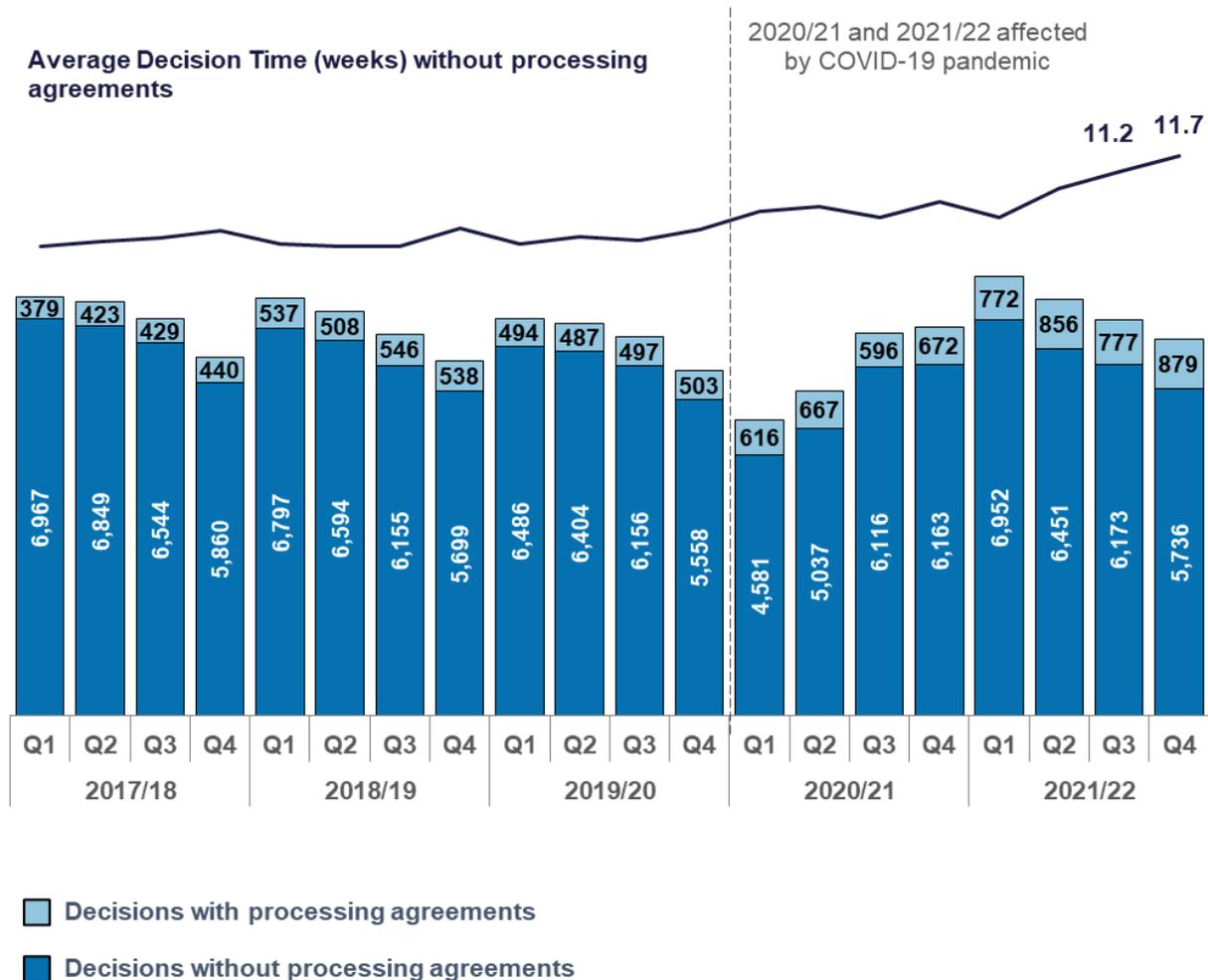
In quarter three there were 777 local development applications with processing agreements, three-quarters (74%) met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. In quarter four there were 879 with 72% meeting the agreed timescales. Some authorities continued to use more processing agreements for local applications than had been used in the past.
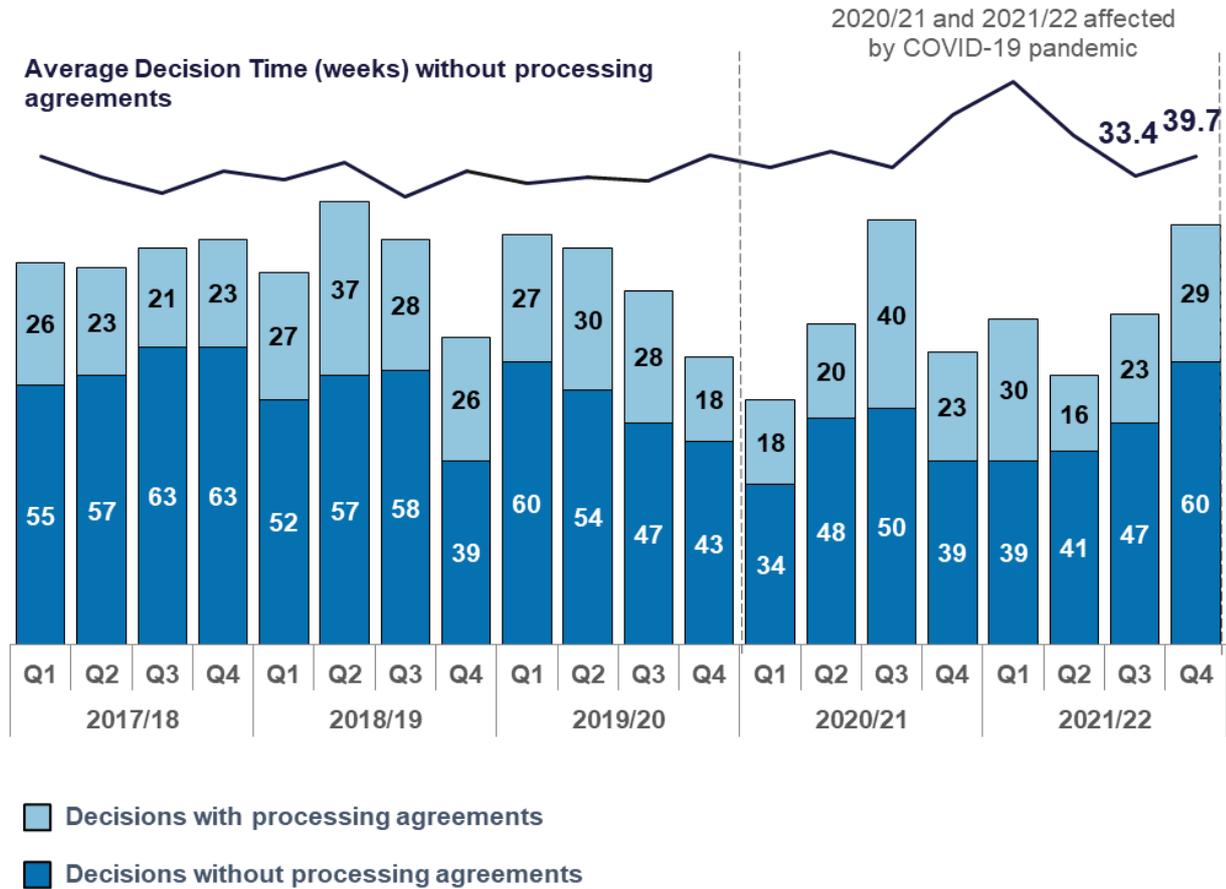
1.2. Local Housing Developments

There were 1,935 local housing developments not subject to processing agreements decided during the last two quarters of 2021/22. This was a return to the levels of 2019/20. The average decision time rose in Q3 and Q4 to 17.1 weeks in Q4. The percentage of decisions made in less than two months was 43% in Q3 and fell to a low of 40% in Q4. Almost two thirds of 362 applications with processing agreements met agreed timescales.

2. Applications for Major Developments

2.1. All Major Developments

There were 159 decisions on major developments in the last two quarters of 2021/22. The average decision times for Q3 and Q4 returned to similar values as those seen prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Chart 19: Quarterly Applications for Major Developments

Average Decision Time (weeks) without processing agreements

2020/21 and 2021/22 affected by COVID-19 pandemic

33.4 39.7

Bar values (Decisions without processing agreements / Decisions with processing agreements):

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2017/18	55 / 26	57 / 23	63 / 21	63 / 23
2018/19	52 / 27	57 / 37	58 / 28	39 / 26
2019/20	60 / 27	54 / 30	47 / 28	43 / 18
2020/21	34 / 18	48 / 20	50 / 40	39 / 23
2021/22	39 / 30	41 / 16	47 / 23	60 / 29

Legend:
- ■ Decisions with processing agreements
- ■ Decisions without processing agreements

In quarter three there were 23 major development applications with processing agreements, less than half (48%) met agreed timescales that had been set between developers and local authorities. In quarter four there were 29, 62% meeting the agreed timescales.

2.2. Major Housing Developments

There were 47 major housing developments not subject to processing agreements decided during the last two quarters of 2021/22. The average decision times were 36.9 weeks in Q3 and 46.1 weeks in Q4. These were more in line with pre-pandemic decision times. There were 27 applications with processing agreements and timescales were met for 36% in Q3 and 63% in Q4.

Tell us what you think

We are always interested to hear from our users about how our statistics are used, and how they can be improved.

Please consider answering our short [feedback survey](#) on how you found this publication.

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
Communites Analysis Division
Telephone: 0131 244 0439
e-mail: 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

- **How to access background or source data**

The data collected for this publication are available on our webpage [View the Scottish Government planning statistics web page](#)

- **Complaints and suggestions**

If you are not satisfied with our service or have any comments or suggestions, please write to:

Chief Statistician
St Andrews House
Edinburgh
EH1 3DG
Telephone: (0131) 244 0302
e-mail: 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

Details of forthcoming publications can be found at www.gov.scot/statistics