

Town & Parish Forum July 2024

Planning Services

Town & Parish Council Forum Agenda

9:30 - 9:45

**Opening word from
Ben Woolnough &
Kay Yule**

Head of Planning Building Control &
Coastal Management &
Cabinet Member for Planning,
Building Control and Coastal
Management.

9:45- 10.30

Service Updates

Updates from Development Management,
Policy & Specialist Services.

10:30 - 11:00

Developers Charter

Presentation and table
discussion.

11:00- 11:15

Coffee Break

11:15 – 12:00

**Enforcement, Consultees
& Engagement**

Presentation & table
discussions.

12:00 - 12:30

Q&A



How do Town Councils work with developers and the planning authority to influence place shaping. e.g. ensuring land is available for recreation/allotments, and ensuring routes from new developments are well lit and properly surfaced. That developments are tailored to the local community and celebrate the local heritage and have space for public art.

1. Based on the pre-election manifesto of the new government what changes are ESC expecting to the planning system
2. We would be interested to receive an update on the performance of the recently introduced ESC planning application referral process

How planning intends to bring back biodiversity and protect our protect our natural world and heritage assets

The ability of a parish council to cope with the documentation associated with NSIPs and other large developments and the timescale for comments on planning applications.

Protection of Open Countryside, Planning permission being put before flooding/sewage capacity/pavements etc.
Conflicts of interest!

The role of Highways in planning determinations.

Does an Objection from a Parish Council carry the same weight as an Objection from an individual, whether another Councilor or a Parishioner?



Rachel Reeves MP - Chancellor

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/chancellor-rachel-reeves-is-taking-immediate-action-to-fix-the-foundations-of-our-economy>

“Nowhere is decisive reform needed more urgently than in the case of our planning system.

Planning reform has become a byword for political timidity in the face of vested interests and a graveyard of economic ambition.

Our antiquated planning system leaves too many important projects getting tied up in years and years of red tape before shovels ever get into the ground.

We promised to put planning reform at the centre of our political argument – and we did.

We said we would grasp the nettle of planning reform – and we are doing so.

Today I can tell you that work is underway.

Over the weekend, I met with the Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister to agree the urgent action needed to fix our planning system.”

What's to come for now?



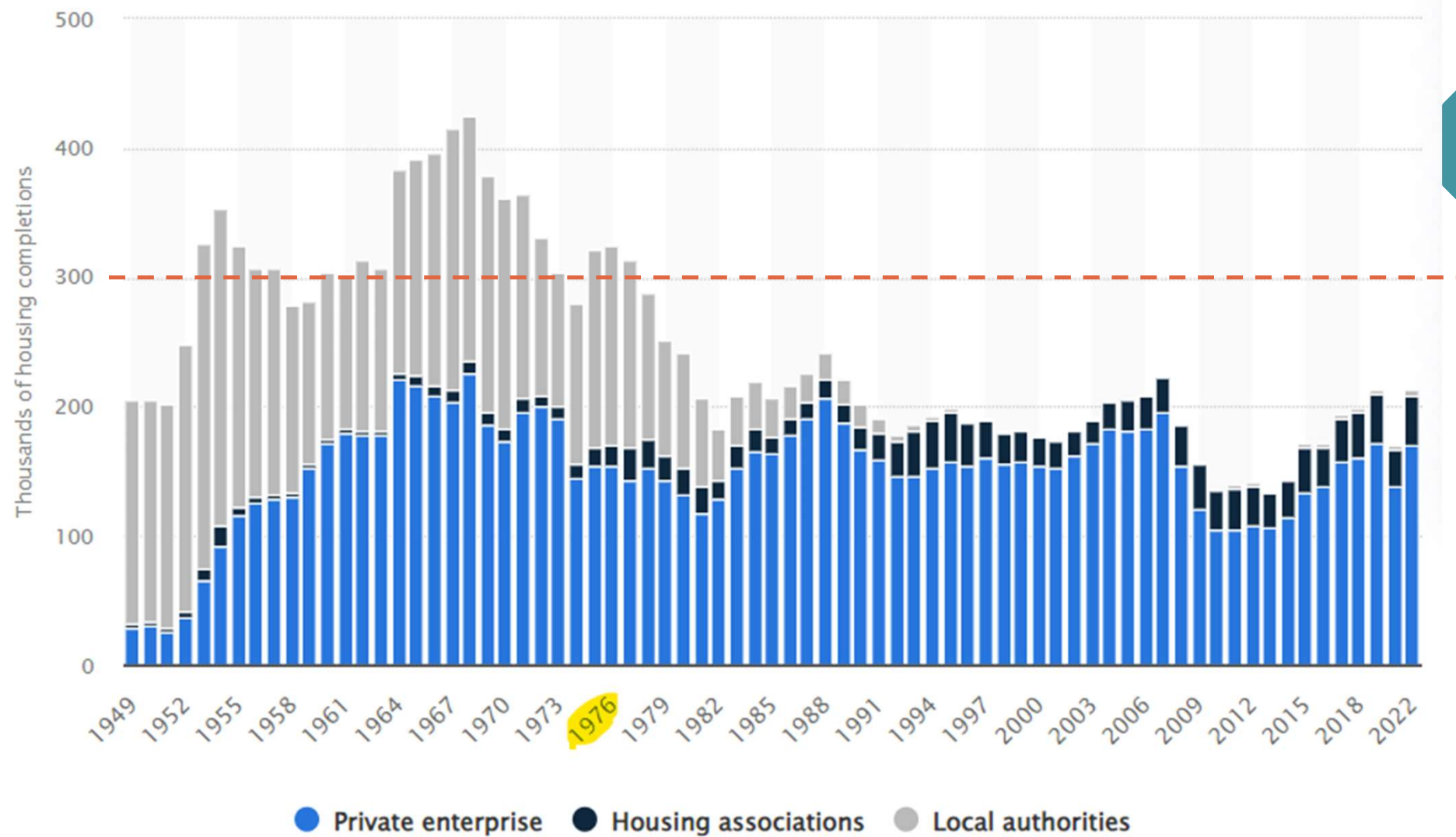
Matt Pennycook MP - Minister of State for Housing

1. **A new NPPF** out for consultation this month - to adopt it within the 1st 100 days, i.e. by mid-October 2024.
2. **Updates to NSIP National Policy Statements on infrastructure** “within the year”.
3. **“Restoring of mandatory housing targets”** - aka 2018 local housing need system under which, housing targets were never actually mandatory to begin with.
4. **Onshore wind turbines** have been immediately permitted again
5. A **new taskforce** to be introduced to “*accelerate stalled housing sites*”.
6. **300 new planning officers** - an important start, but even if they can be found, that’s fewer than 1 new officer per authority, and would replace less than a tenth of the 3,100 planners who left public service between 2010 and 2020.
7. More **direct intervention** in decisions and appeals.
8. A letter coming from Angela Rayner, our new deputy PM and Secretary of State which tells authorities to (a) **get on and adopt local plans**, (b) review their Green Belt boundaries

[Courtesy of Zack Simons - #PlanningReformDay 2024 - “a war on Britain’s planning system”? — #planoraks](#)



“My Ministers will get Britain building, including through planning reform, as they seek to accelerate the delivery of high quality infrastructure and housing [Planning and Infrastructure Bill]. They will also pursue sustainable growth by encouraging investment in industry, skills and new technologies.”



DAILY NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

THE



TIMES

Monday July 8 2024 | thetimes.com | No 74455

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Oh no, Brits abroad

What not to do and say

INSIDE TIMES2

How I was scammed out of £35,000

Hard-left leader claims victory in French election shock

Adam Sage, Charles Bremner
David Chazan Paris

France plunged into political chaos last night after the left-wing New Popular Front won parliamentary elections but fell short of an absolute majority.

The surprise outcome brought down the country coalition of the right, led by Emmanuel Macron, with no parties able to pass legislation, only two weeks before Paris hosts the summer Olympics. The scenario is without precedent since the Fifth French Republic was created by General de Gaulle in 1958.

There were claims that France may need a new constitution if Macron is unable to build a rainbow coalition.

Gabriel Attali, 35, his prime minister, said he would resign today but may be asked to carry on in a caretaker role until after the Olympics, Attali said. "No majority has emerged... tomorrow a new era will begin."

Jean-Luc Mélenchon, the radical left-wing leader often compared to Jeremy Corbyn, claimed victory and demanded that the front be allowed to form a government. He pledged to implement public spending increases of at least €50 billion over the next five years, to be financed by tax rises.

Mélenchon said: "The defeat of the president and his coalition has been clearly confirmed... The president must... admit his defeat." However, after refusing his demands, saying that the left had secured too few MPs to run France in political chaos, pages 26, 27

Second-round results

Predicted number of seats

New Popular Front 182/350

Ensemble 107/163

National Rally and allies 136/144

Homes on green belt in new dash for growth

Labour to ease building rules and fight 'nimbys'

Steven Swindford Political Editor
Oliver Wright Policy Editor

The chancellor will deliver her first speech in the Treasury today, saying there is "no time to waste" as Labour works to improve living standards and boost growth.

Labour will announce the relaxation of mandatory local housebuilding targets while relaxing planning restrictions on building on "silly" parts of the green belt, which Sir Keir Starmer has branded the "grey belt". There will be an enhanced presumption in favour of development.

The draft National Planning Policy Framework, which will be published before parliament rises for recess in August, will also end the de facto ban on new onshore wind turbines. Labour wants the changes in place by autumn.

Rachel Reeves, the chancellor, will put growth at the centre of Labour's pitch to the nation this week.

Economists have warned that Labour will be forced to either raise taxes or cut public spending to balance the books. Starmer has accused them of being "defeatist" and "critical" and said that Labour will defy growth forecasts.

In a speech he will make to business leaders today, Reeves says: "Last week, the British people voted for change. And over the past 27 hours I have begun the work necessary to deliver on that mandate. Our manifesto was clear: Sustained economic growth is the only

route to improving the prosperity of our country and the living standards of working people.

"Where governments have been unwilling to take the difficult decisions to deliver growth — or have waited too long to act — I will deliver. There is no time to waste.

"I want to outline the first steps this new government has taken to fix the foundations of our economy, so we can rebuild Britain and make every part of our country better off."

Labour's move will reverse controversial changes to England's planning laws made by Michael Gove, the former housing secretary, last year in response to a backlash from Tory MPs concerned about new development in their constituencies.

These allowed councils to ignore targets for new homes needed to meet local demand if the development model either after the character of an area or pick to the nation this week.

After the changes local authorities across the country began cancelling previously authorised housing developments.

"The latest figures show that in the week to March, work started on building 134,280 new homes — a 22 per cent decline on the year before. New home completions in England were also down by 12 per cent. Overall only 13,000 new homes were built.

Starmer and Reeves have pledged to

Continued on page 6

Down and out Emma Raducanu was knocked out of Wimbledon after hurting her back and ankle in a fall. Page 12 and Sport

Millions to 'work from beach' this summer

Andrew Ellison
Consumer Affairs Correspondent

Holidays used to be about sun, sea, sand and sunbathing. Many before resort to these rights either to work, while on holiday or extend their time overseas by working for part of their trip.

However, the new practices are not universally liked by those left behind, with one in five staff saying they find it annoying when colleagues join virtual meetings from the beach, a bar or beside the pool. There is also a suspicion among nearly a quarter of staff that those working from anywhere are not keeping up with the productivity levels of those back in the UK.

Time differences can also be a problem with a quarter of staff saying those working from abroad miss deadlines. Flexible working expanded hugely in the pandemic and since then many employers have kept the policies, at least in part because a tight labour market has made recruitment difficult. The research, for MoneySupermarket, the comparison website, found that work from anywhere policies meant people were likely to stay at a company for longer.

The study discovered that about half of these employees — the equivalent of six million people — planned to use these rights either to work, while on holiday or extend their time overseas by working for part of their trip.

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Newcastle

York

Manchester

Stoke-on-Trent

Nottingham

Cambridge

London

Bournemouth

Bristol

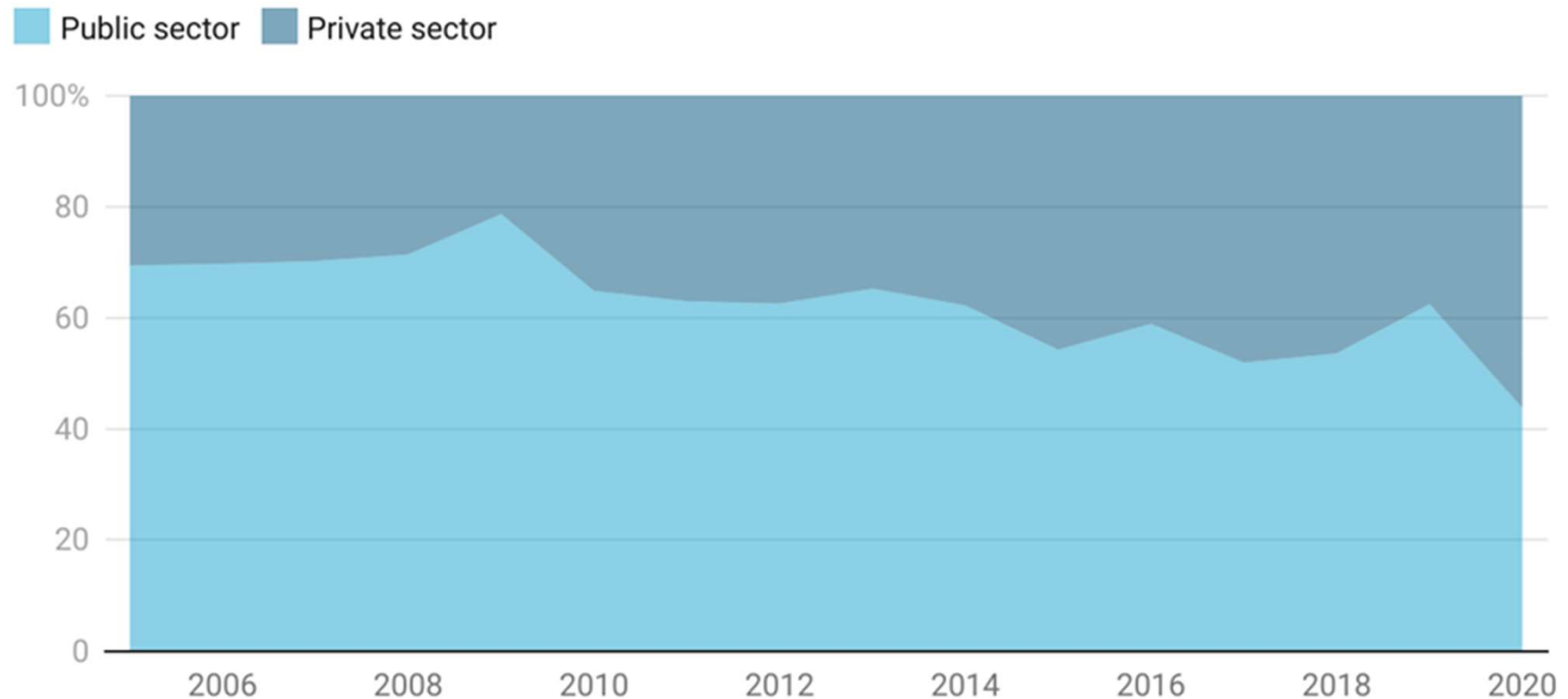
Oxford

Birmingham

Green Belt Areas of England

Employment of planners, public and private sector

Over fifteen years, the proportion of planners working in the public sector fell from around 70% to under 50%.



Estimates from the ONS Annual Population Survey

Chart: RTPI • Source: ONS • Created with Datawrapper



Development Management

Ben Woolnough

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

Duty Planner: dutyplanner@eastsoffolk.gov.uk
Enforcement: d.c.enforcement@eastsoffolk.gov.uk
Support Team: planning@eastsoffolk.gov.uk
CIL / S106: CIL@eastsoffolk.gov.uk

The Development Management Team have responsibilities for:

- Planning applications
- Planning enforcement
- Major projects
- Community Infrastructure Levy



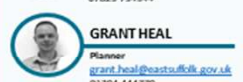
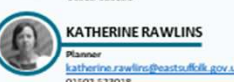
DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT NORTH TEAM

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT CENTRAL TEAM

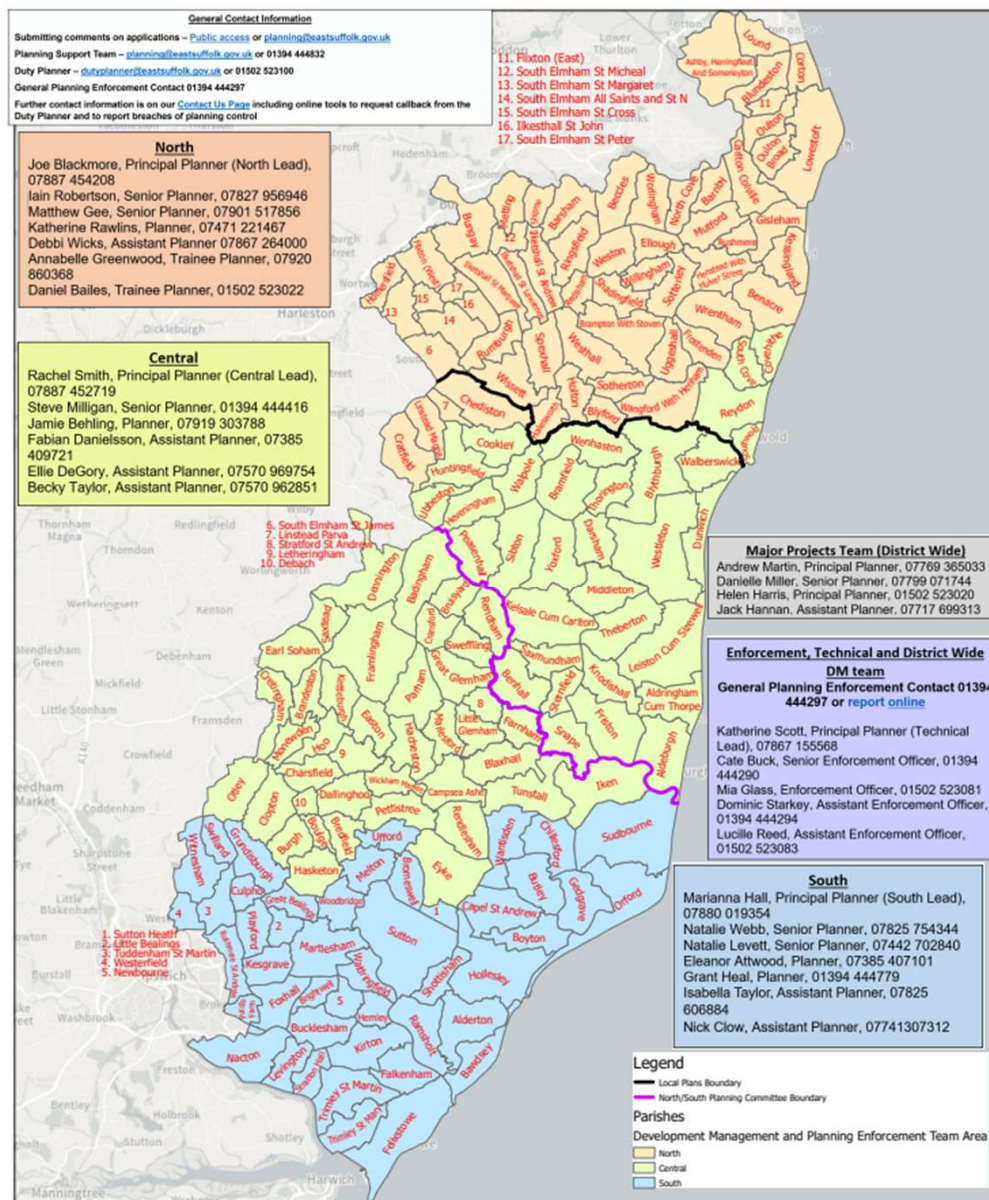
DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT SOUTH TEAM

ENFORCEMENT, TECHNICAL AND DISTRICT WIDE TEAM

MAJOR SITES AND INFRASTRUCTURE



Development Management and Enforcement Areas



[DMParishes-with-contact-info.pdf \(eastsoffolk.gov.uk\)](#)

Figure 2: Total number of cases determined per quarter with a breakdown of key types between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024

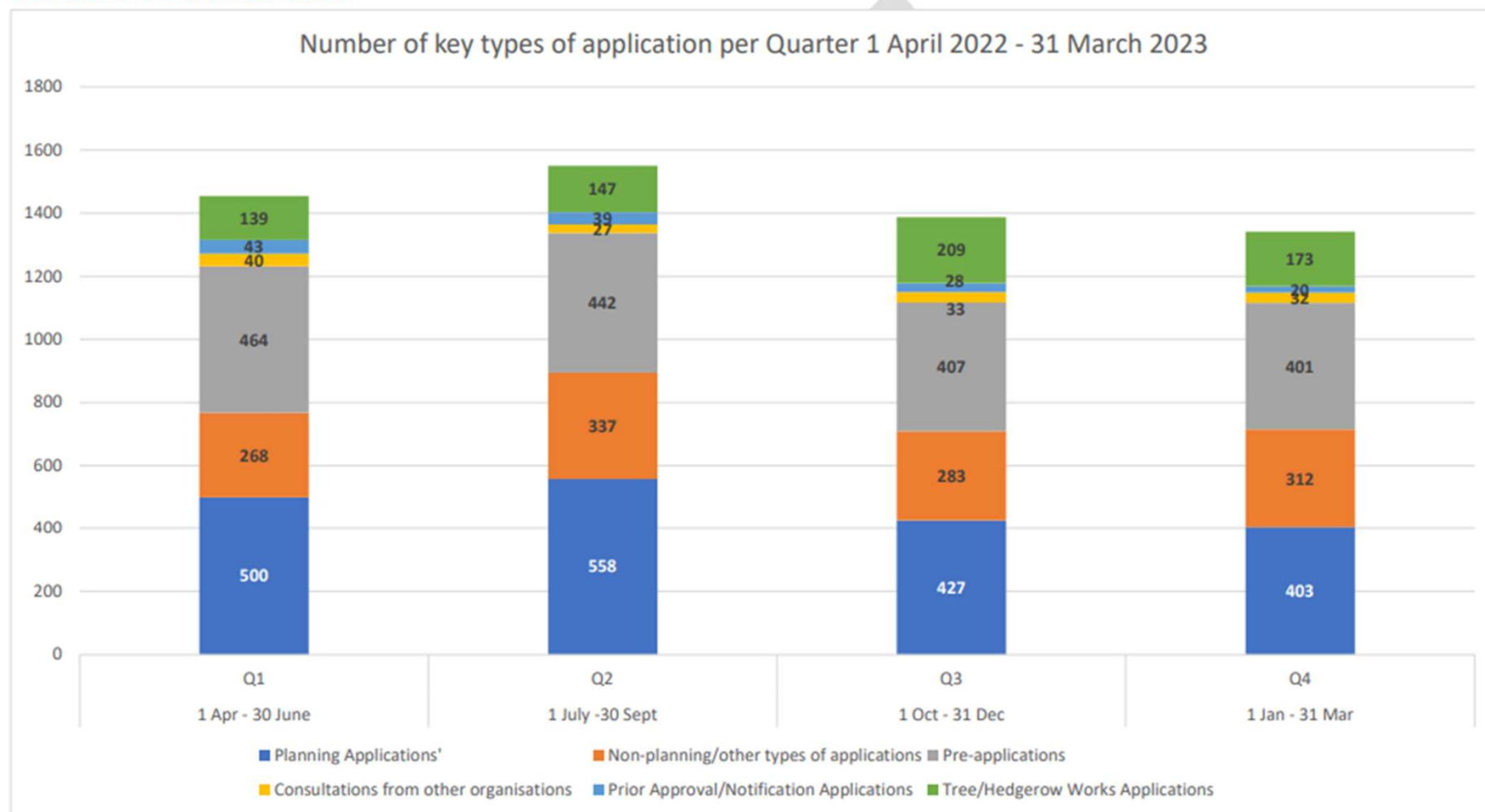


Figure 3: The proportions of 'Planning Applications' approved/refused per quarter 2022 -2023

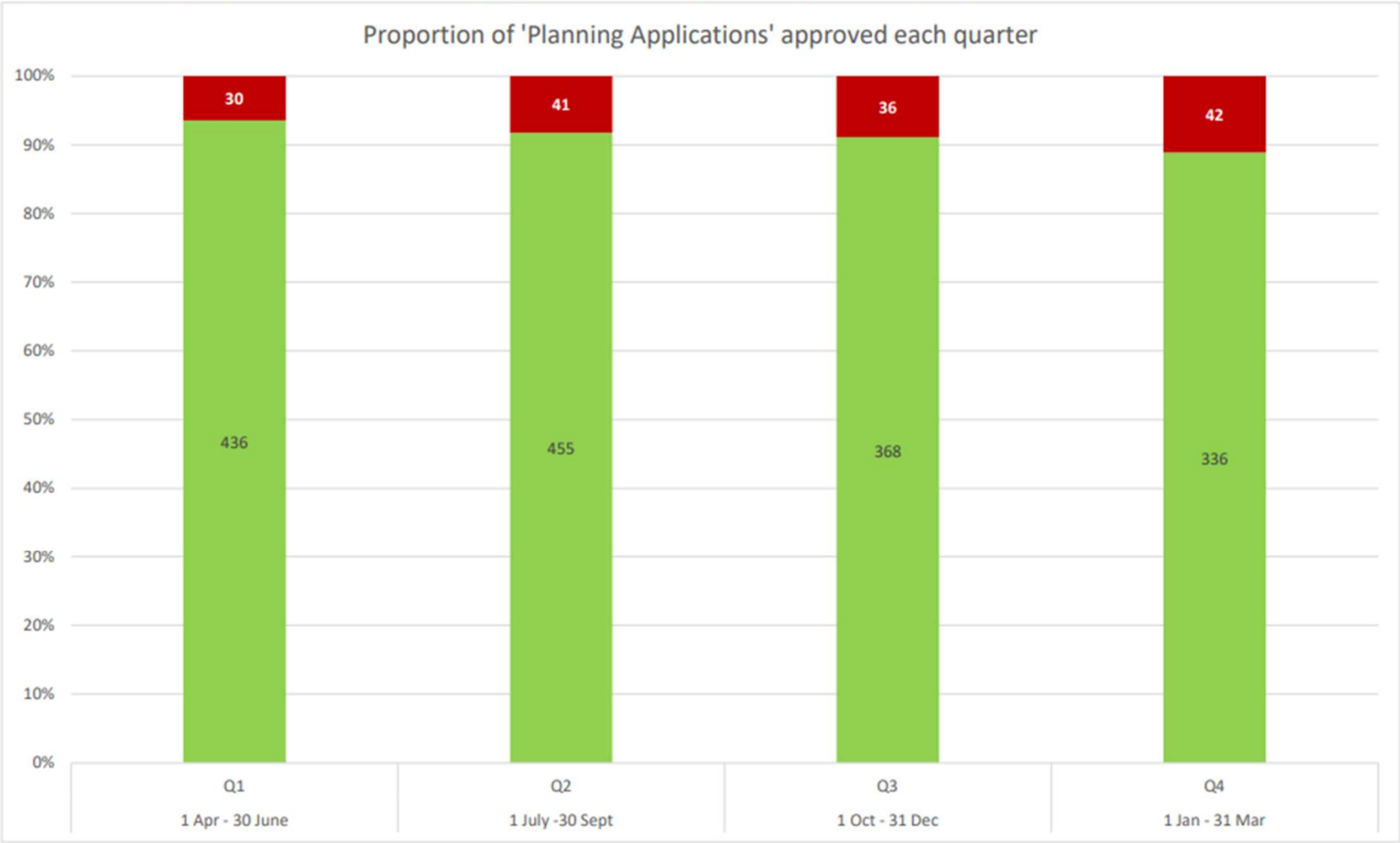


Figure 1: The number of cases closed for each reason shown together during each month, 1 July 2019 – 31 March 2024

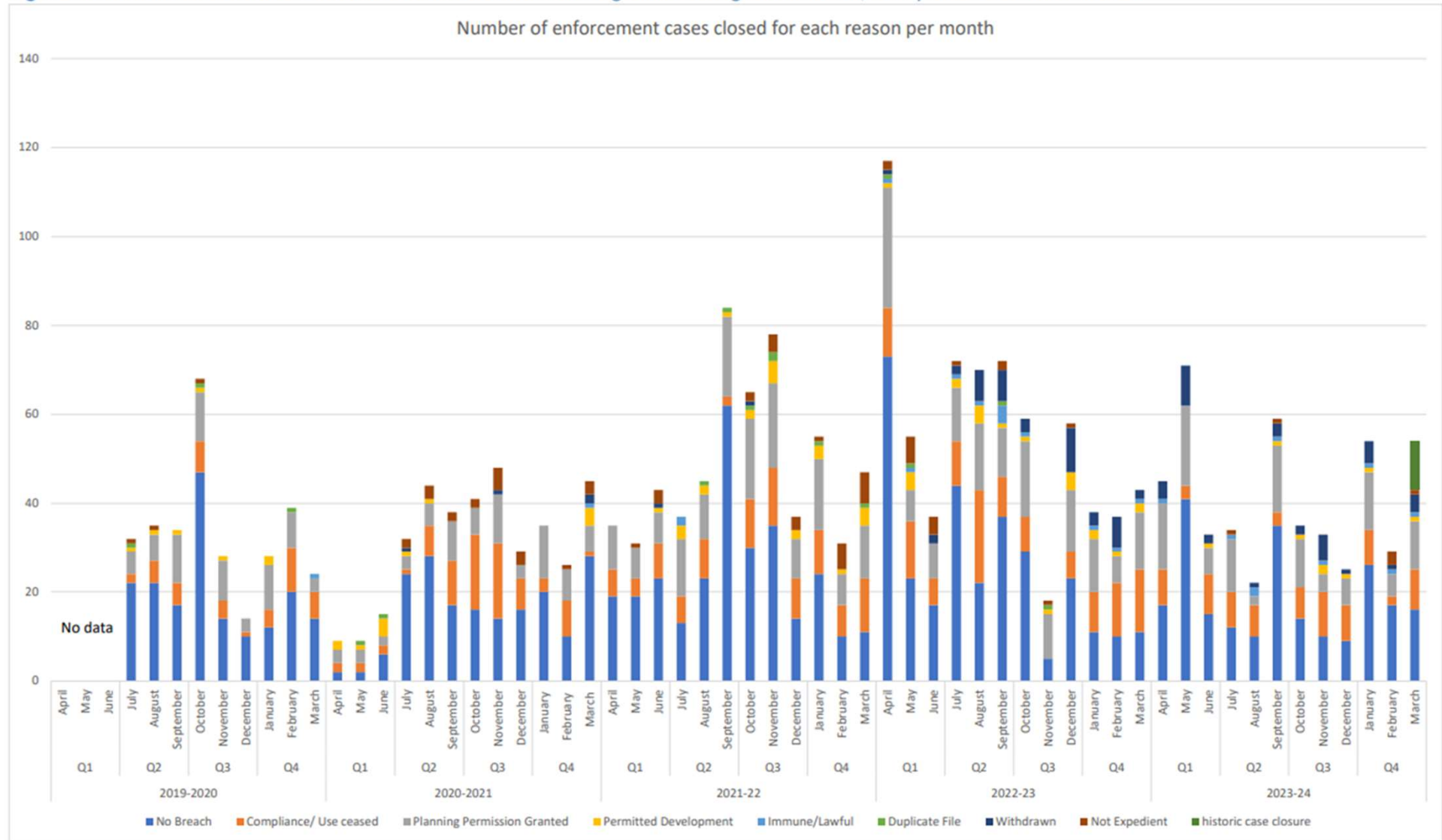


Figure 4: Overall Appeal Outcomes (those with appeal decisions issued between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024)

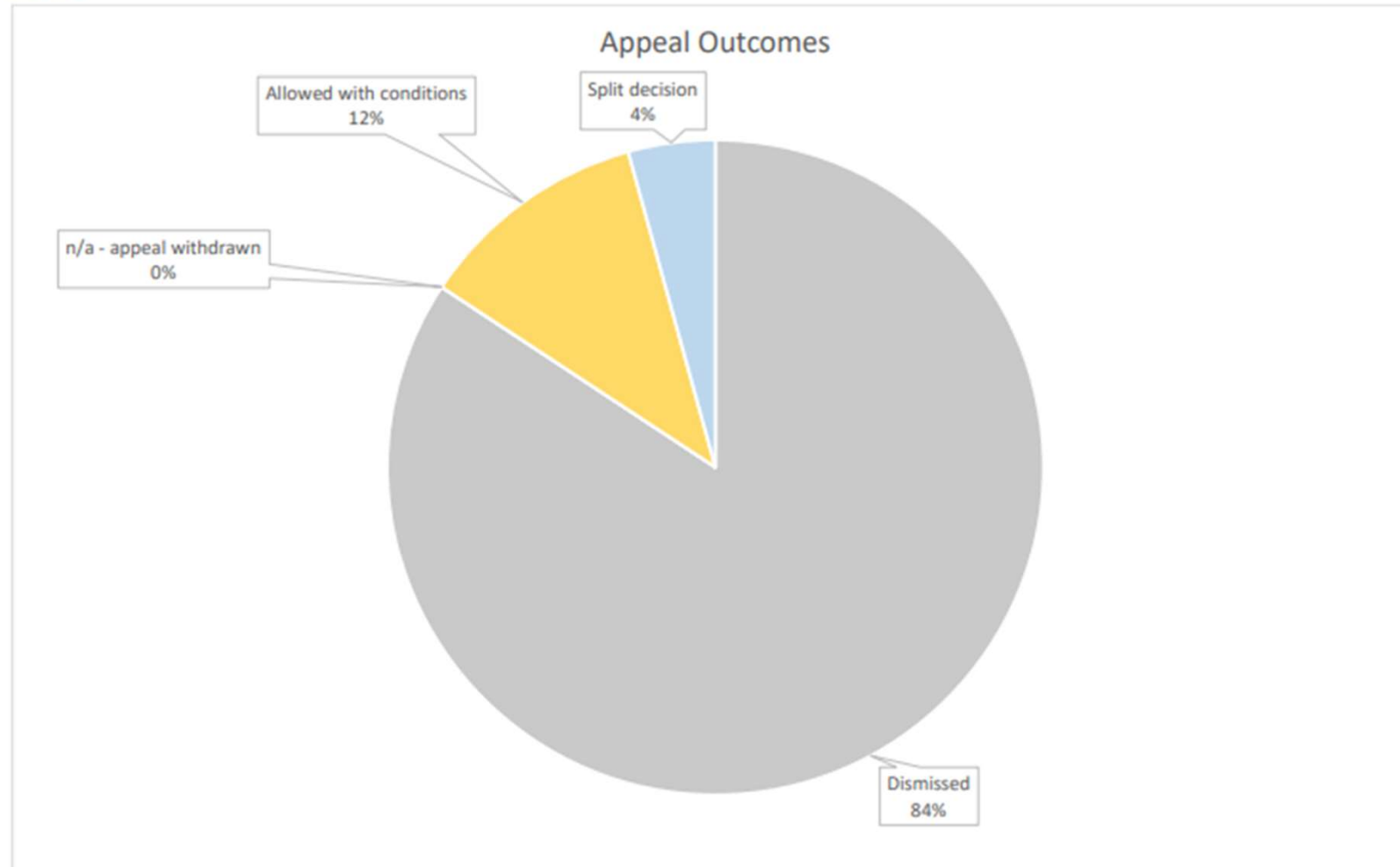


Figure 1: Number of items at Referral Panel (by Ward) between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024

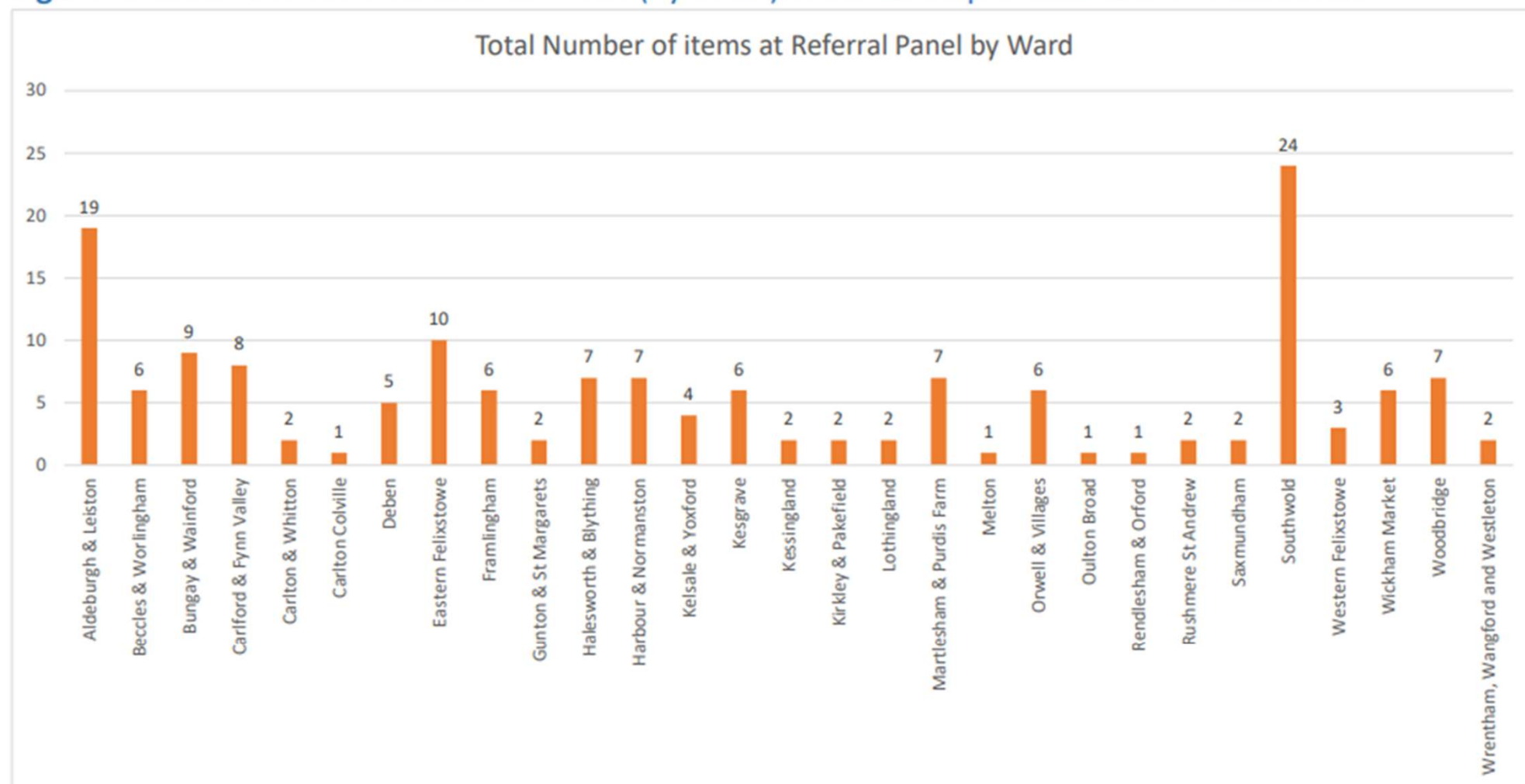
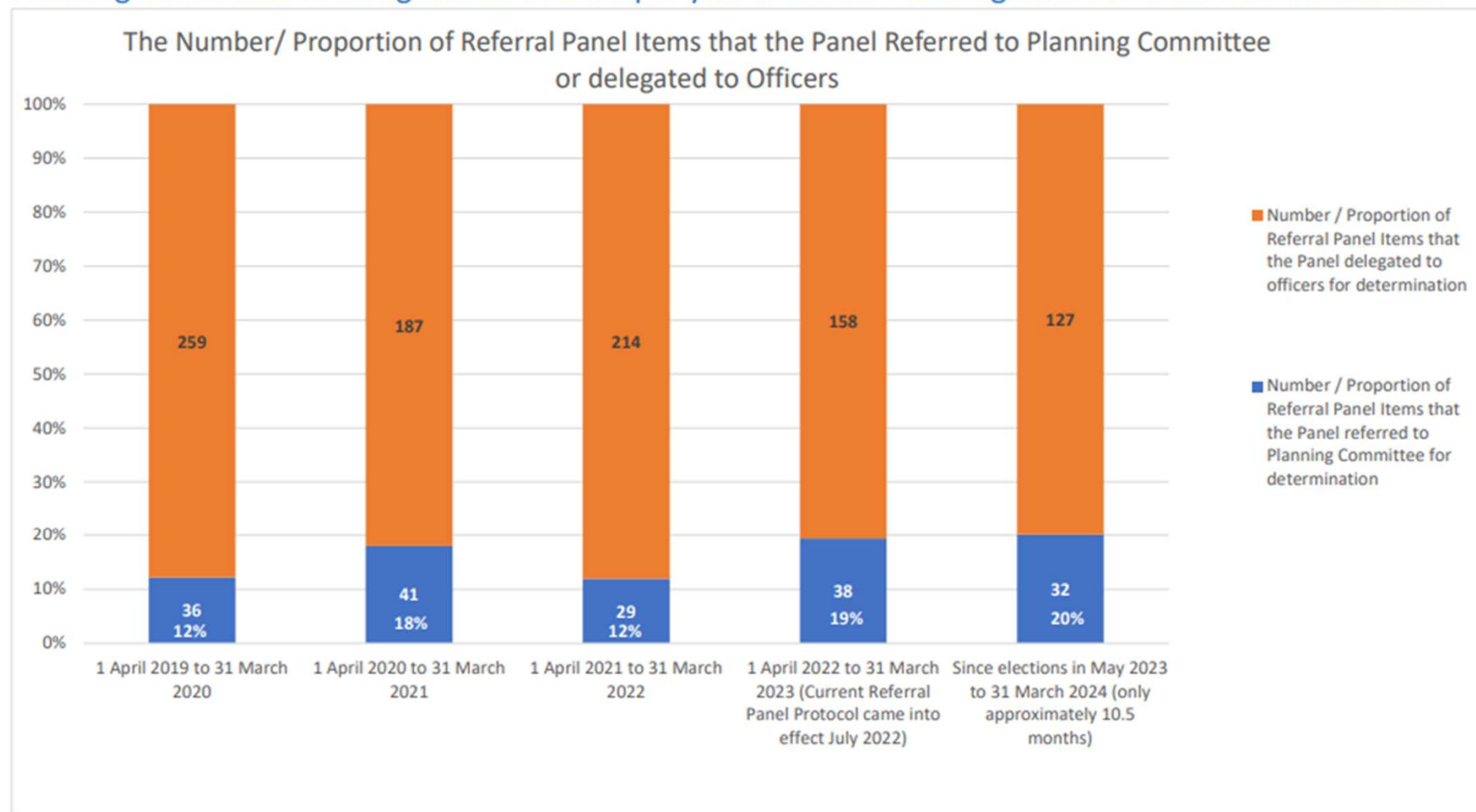


Figure 11: The Number/Proportion of items at the Planning Referral Panel that the Panel referred to Planning Committee or delegated to Officers per year since the Planning Referral Panel was introduced.



Planning Committee Member Call-In Process

1. **Within the 21 day** consultation period if a contrary position to the officer recommendation is received from the **Town or Parish Council** and a request for Committee decision is received from a **Ward Member** then a Planning Committee member call-in process would be triggered. *In the event that only a Town/Parish Council response or Ward Member response is received then the existing Referral Panel process would proceed.*
2. With the Planning Committee member call-in process triggered the **case officer would send a notification to all relevant North or South Planning Committee members by email.** This would be carried out once the officer is able to understand whether a decision will be contrary to Town or Parish Council and Ward Member positions.
3. After the notification has been sent, **any member of the relevant North or South Planning Committee must respond within 5 working days if they wish to confirm that it should be considered by the Planning Committee.** All call-in request from a Planning Committee member must set out how they consider it meets the expectation that : **“The proposal would be of significant public interest; would have a significant impact on the environment; or should otherwise be referred to Members due to its significance in some other respect”.**





“East Suffolk Council’s Quality of Place Awards recognise efforts to **conserve historic buildings and enhance the built and natural environment** through high-quality design.”

[Home](#) > [Planning](#) > [Design, heritage, ecology, trees, landscape and Rights of Way](#) > [Quality of Place awards](#)

Quality of Place awards

**2024 Quality of
Place awards**

**2023 Quality of
Place award
winners**

**2022 Quality of
Place award
winners**

**2021 Quality of
Place award
winners**

**2020 Quality of
Place award
winners**

**2019 Quality of
Place award
winners**

**2018 Quality of
Place award
winners**

**2017 Quality of
Place award
winners**

**2016 Quality of
Place award
winners**

**2015 Quality of
Place award
winners**

**2013 Quality of
Place award
winners**

**2012 Quality of
Place award
winners**

**2011 Quality of
Place award
winners**

**2010 Quality of
Place award
winners**



What does this mean for you?

- ✓ Celebrate
 - ✓ Civic pride
 - ✓ Champion communities
 - ✓ Proud
-

1. Design – New Build
 2. Design – Extensions and Alterations
 3. Building Conservation
 4. Community
 5. Landscape
 6. Nature/Ecology
-

DESIGN 2023









COMMUNITY 2022



ITS FREE TO NOMINATE!!!

- Owner's permission
- Planning application not necessary
- Awards evening to celebrate



Quality of place awards nomination

Nomination details

Project details 1

Project details 2

Supporting documents

Declaration

Publicity and promotion

Required fields are marked with *

Nominator

Name *

Telephone number *

Email address *

Do you represent a company/organisation? *



Website:

[Quality of Place awards » East Suffolk Council](#)

E-mail:

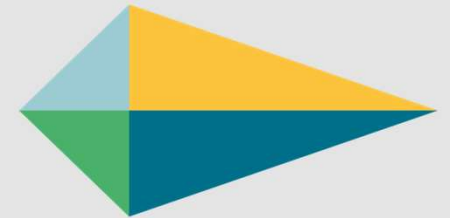
qualityofplaceawards@east Suffolk.gov.uk

A follow up email will be sent to provide links.

Planning policy update

Town and Parish Council forum

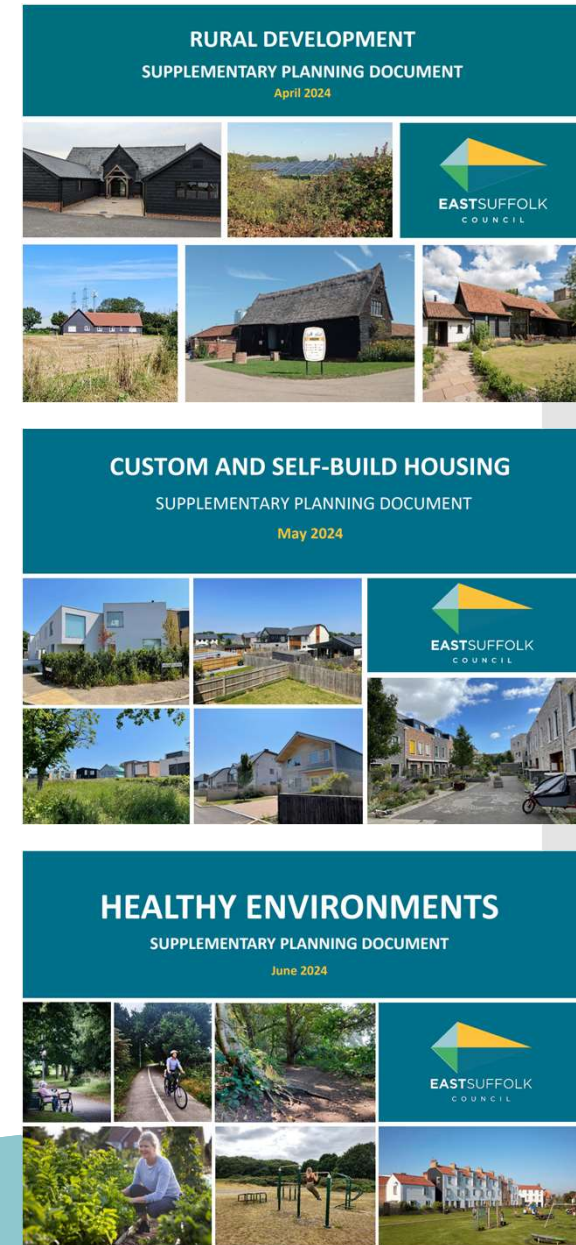
11th / 25th July 2024



EASTSUFFOLK
COUNCIL

Supplementary Planning Documents

- Adoption of three new **Supplementary Planning Documents**:
 - Rural Development (April 2024)
 - Self Build and Custom Build Housing (May 2024)
 - Healthy Environments (June 2024)
- Initial consultation on preparation of a Planning Position Statement for the Kirkley Waterfront and Sustainable Urban Neighbourhood undertaken in March / April 2024. Consultation on draft planned for Summer.
- [Supplementary Planning Documents and other guidance » East Suffolk Council](#)

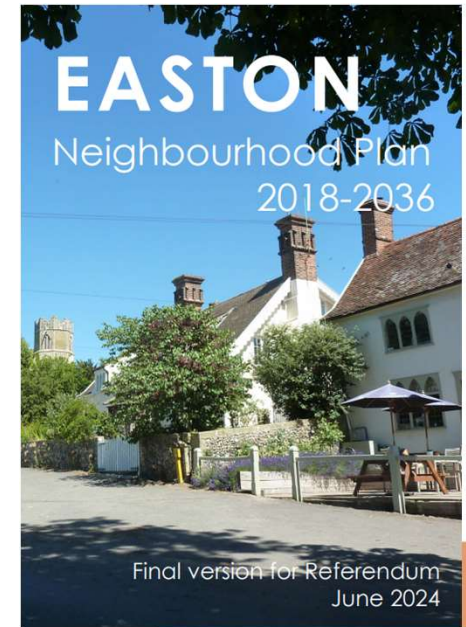


Neighbourhood Plans

- Total of **25 'made'** plans
 - Easton – referendum 13th June (91% of those voting voted in favour)
 - Playford – referendum 13th June (79% of those voting voted in favour)
 - Plans 'made' at Full Council on 24th July
- **Examiner's Report received**
 - Carlton Colville (January 2024)
- **Regulation 14 Consultations**
 - Ufford – consultation from 14th March to 3rd May
 - Otley – consultation ended 15th April

Guidance available on the website, and team available to provide advice and support to any Town or Parish considering a Neighbourhood Plan – please do get in touch!

[Neighbourhood Planning » East Suffolk Council](#)



Other updates

Local Development Scheme

- Published March 2024
- Responded to December 2023 Written Ministerial Statement which asked local authorities to have an up to date local plan timetable in place
- Indicative timetable for the next **Local Plan** based on beginning in spring/summer 2025, subject to plan-making reforms
- [Statement of Community Involvement and Local Development Scheme » East Suffolk Council](#)

East Suffolk Local Development Scheme

Timetable for the preparation of planning policy documents



March 2024

Other updates

Developer Charter

- More information in next presentation

Monitoring

- Annual monitoring and collation of data underway (e.g. housing, town centres)
- Annual update of the Housing Land Supply Statement - to be published in the Autumn
- Authority Monitoring Report will be published January 2025
- Data will be available on the [Planning Delivery Dashboard](#) and [Open Data portal](#)

Town and Village Profiles

- Last produced in 2019 – contain town/parish level key demographic and economic data
- Will be updating with latest data (e.g. 2021 Census)
- To be produced in digital format
- [Town and village profiles » East Suffolk Council](#)

Planning Delivery Dashboard



Planning delivery dashboard

Find out where new homes have been built, uses in town centres, progress on sites allocated for development in Local Plans and much more.

This page provides data for the monitoring year 2022/23, time series data and interactive mapping to support the [Authority Monitoring Report](#). This looks at how the [Local Plans](#) are performing.



Planning delivery dashboard

Find out where new homes have been built, uses in town centres, progress on sites allocated for development in Local Plans and much more.

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1 New homes



2 Retail and town centres



3 Progress on site allocations



4 Design



5 Natural and historic environment



6 Climate change



7 Employment



8 Open Data



9 Authority Monitoring Report 2022-23 (coming soon)



1 New homes



2 Retail and town centres



3 Progress on site allocations



4 Design



5 Natural and historic environment



6 Climate change



7 Employment




8 Open Data






9 Authority Monitoring Report 2022-23 (coming soon)

Open Data

 East Suffolk Council Open Data

[Housing](#) [Economy](#) [Transport](#) [Local Plan](#) [More ▾](#)


  


East Suffolk Open Data


Search, discover and use Planning Policy data


Explore and download East Suffolk Planning Policy data. Use the search bar above or select a data category below.


Data Categories


 All Data

 Housing


 Economy

 Transport

 Local Plan

 Neighbourhood Planning


Explore Maps and Apps



Planning delivery dashboard

Find out where new homes have been built, uses in town centre...


[Explore](#)



Neighbourhood Plans

Designated Neighbourhood Areas and Made...


[Explore](#)



Brownfield Land Register

Previously developed land suitable, available and...

[Explore](#)



Local and Neighbourhood Plan...

Map-based planning policies from Local Plans and...

[Explore](#)

The East Suffolk Developers Charter

Town & Parish Forums
11th July & 25th July 2024





Purpose of the Developers Charter

The purpose of the Charter is:

To support and incentivise best practice in community and stakeholder engagement throughout the planning process, and in the sustainable design and delivery of completed schemes.

This is to be achieved through guiding and recognising developers that can demonstrate they are 'going over and above' in terms of:

- (1) **engaging positively and meaningfully with communities and planning officers** before and during the planning application process;
- (2) **sustainable design**: encourage developments that exceed national and local planning policy minimums and minimum Building Regulations standards on key sustainability matters, and;
- (3) **During & post-delivery scheme stewardship**: encourage best practice during and post-delivery.

The Developers Charter is not policy. As it is not policy, we can't take account of scheme's performance against the Developers Charter in the determination of planning applications.

Policy context

- East Suffolk have two up to date **Local Plans** – the Waveney Local Plan (2019) and the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan (2020). There are also 23 ‘made’ **Neighbourhood Plans** in the district.
- The Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans include **policies** that inform the **locations and qualities of development** (e.g. design quality, sustainable construction, open space, etc.) to ensure development is economically, socially and environmentally sustainable.
- Implementation of the Local Plan policies is supported by **Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)** on policy topics such as Sustainable Construction, Healthy Environments, Affordable Housing, Custom and Self-Build Housing, Historic Environment, etc.
- East Suffolk **Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)** – this sets out the engagement protocol between key stakeholders – the Council, the community, developers and statutory consultees – on plan making and decision-making processes.
- East Suffolk **Local Validation List** – determines the minimum requirements for planning applications for different types/scales of development to be considered ‘valid’, and therefore able to progress through planning.



The Suffolk Design Management Process - SDMP



Developers Charter: what it's not

- The Developers Charter is not policy. As it is not policy, performance against the Developers Charter will not be material to the determination of planning applications.
- Developer participation will be entirely **voluntary**.
- There is no requirement (or resource) for LPAs to produce Charters, though there are other LPAs that have produced them – usually related to engagement.





Ideas for the Developers Charter

Ideas for how best practice in these key areas can be defined and assessed:

Engagement quality (pre- and during planning)

- Positively and productively engaging with planning officers during the planning process,
- Meaningful community engagement through consultation and co-design activities throughout the planning process, using a variety of effective engagement tools,
- Maintaining community contact and liaison throughout the build and post-delivery,
- Facilitating community cohesion activities/resources to support social connection post-occupancy.



Ideas for the Developers Charter

Ideas for how best practice in these key areas can be defined and assessed:

Sustainable design:

The exceedance of exceed national and local planning policy minimums and minimum Building Regulations standards in the design of schemes on key sustainability matters such as:

- accessibility and adaptability,
- affordability,
- resource efficiency (water and energy) and general standards of building performance,
- drainage (SuDS),
- inclusivity (e.g. tenure-blind, dementia-friendly, etc),
- on-site renewable energy generation,
- biodiversity net gain, and planting and landscaping,
- pro-social design of streets and open space, etc.



Ideas for the Developers Charter

Ideas for how best practice in these key areas can be defined and assessed:

During & post-delivery scheme stewardship – the quality of:

- Keeping the community informed about progress on the development,
- Keeping the Council informed about housing delivery progress, landscaping/planting maintenance and monitoring,
- Post-completion analysis reports.

Potential theme areas and awards structure

Potential theme areas		Point to apply for Charter recognition	Recognition
1	Participation and engagement (Part 1): before and during the planning application process	At the end of planning application process	To acknowledge best practice engagement with the community and planning officers over the course of the application process.
1	Participation and engagement (Part 2): construction management and post-completion engagement	Following delivery of the scheme.	To acknowledge best practice during the delivery of the scheme and post-construction.
2	Healthy environments		To acknowledge the social, environmental and economic sustainability and design quality of the scheme across each of the theme areas.
3	Housing		
4	Biodiversity and landscape		
5	Sustainable design and construction		

Next Steps

- Town and Parish Forums – July 2024
- Engagement with developers – August 2024
- Adoption – Autumn 2024



Slide 50

AM0

Not necessarily for the slide but can we explain that developers spoken to have suggested they would support this approach.
I'd just put 'Adoption Autumn 2024' for the purpose of this.

Andrea McMillan, 2024-07-08T17:14:27.707



We want your ideas on what we should expect from developers in the Charter!

(20 minutes + tea/coffee break)

Please see the activity sheet on your table.

Each table has a theme assigned to it. The five themes are:

- Theme 1: Participation and engagement
- Theme 2: Healthy environments
- Theme 3: Housing
- Theme 4: Biodiversity and landscape
- Theme 5: Sustainable design and construction

NB: You are welcome to contribute to the other theme areas during the tea/coffee break.

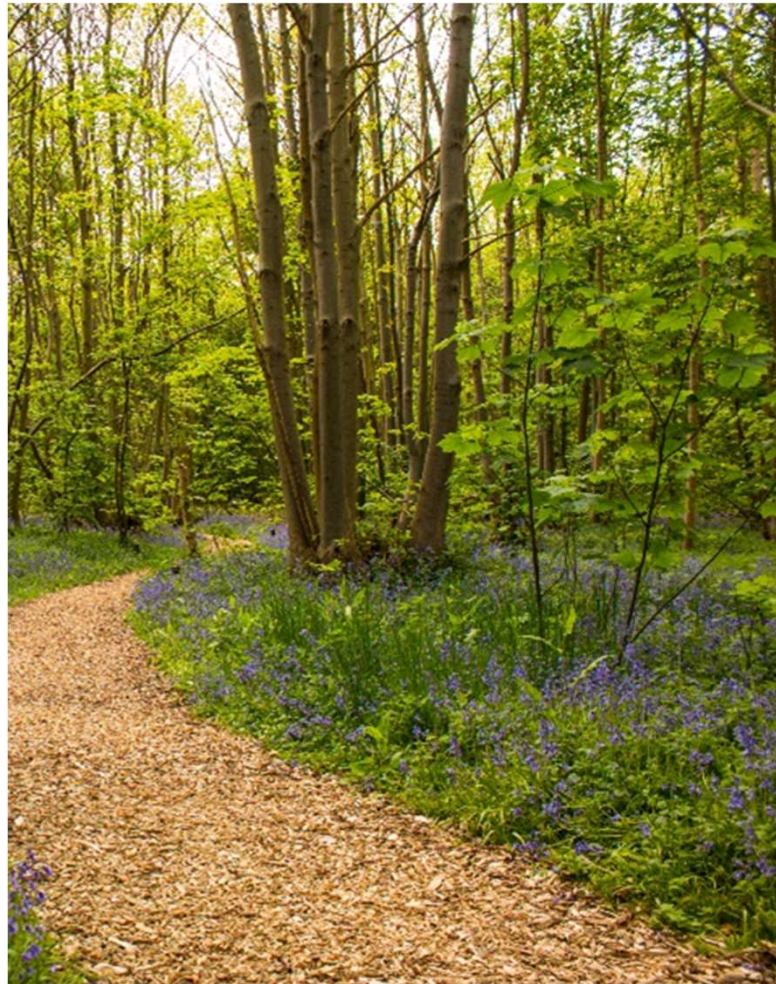
Slide 51

AM0

can we allow 20 mins for the group discussions

Andrea McMillan, 2024-07-08T17:14:45.657

Contact



If you have any further questions after the Forum, please contact:

Ruth.Bishop@eastsoffolk.gov.uk

Jasmin.Machen@eastsoffolk.gov.uk



Break





11:15 – 12:00

Enforcement, Consultees & Engagement

Workshops on tables, influenced by questions we've received from you.

Please feel free to mix yourselves up

Your feedback will help us to help you!