

Major residential decisions increase by 36%

Latest planning performance by London boroughs and English districts

OVERVIEW

Between October and December 2013 district level planning authorities in England:

- decided 104,700 planning applications, 1 per cent higher than in the same quarter in the previous year;
 - granted 85,200 permissions, unchanged from the same quarter in 2012;
 - granted 88 per cent of applications, compared with 87 per cent in the same quarter in 2012;
 - decided 74 per cent of major applications in 13 weeks;
 - and decided 6 per cent more residential decisions compared to the December quarter 2012, with numbers of major residential decisions (10 or more dwellings) up by 36 per cent.
- In the year ending December 2013, district level planning authorities:
- decided 422,900 planning applications, a decrease of 1 per cent compared to the figure for the year to December 2012;
 - granted 346,800 permissions, no change compared to the figure for the year to December 2012;
 - granted 88 per cent of decisions, an increase of 1 percentage point when compared to the previous year;
 - decided 67 per cent of major applications in 13 weeks;
 - decided 70 per cent of minor applications and 83 per cent of others in 8 weeks compared with 68 per cent and 81 per cent respectively in the previous year;
 - and decided 7 per cent more residential decisions compared to the previous year, with major residential decisions up by 31 per cent.

Planning applications

In October to December 2013, authorities undertaking district level planning in England received 108,600 applications for planning permission. This represents an increase of 2 per cent compared with the corresponding quarter in 2012. In the

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Planning decisions by development type, speed of decision and local planning authority

Table P131. District planning authorities - Planning decisions, by development type, speed of decision and authority
October to December 2013

Planning Authority	Total Major Decisions	Number granted	Major Developments			Total Decisions	Decisions within limit
			Percentage granted	Percentage within 13 weeks	Percentage over 13 weeks		
England	4,071	3,516	86	74	26	769	
Barking and Dagenham	17	16	94	100	-	8	
Barnet	15	13	87	87	13	7	
Bexley	10	8	80	60	40	-	
Brent	6	6	100	67	33	2	
Bromley*	11	10	91	73	27	1	
Camden	15	10	67	87	13	4	
City of London	12	12	100	58	42	-	
Croydon	11	8	73	82	18	3	
Ealing	29	27	93	62	38	-	
Enfield	12	11	92	58	42	1	
Greenwich	17	15	88	76	24	2	
Hackney	15	10	67	80	20	4	
Hammersmith and Fulham	10	8	80	100	-	8	
Haringey	3	3	100	100	-	2	
Harrow	4	3	75	50	50	-	
Havering	18	12	67	83	17	5	
Hillingdon	21	18	86	76	24	6	
Hounslow	30	29	97	80	20	12	
Islington	11	10	91	82	18	5	
Kensington and Chelsea	16	15	94	100	-	8	
Kingston upon Thames	3	3	100	100	-	-	
Lambeth	20	18	90	85	15	6	
Lewisham	9	8	89	89	11	6	
London Legacy Development Corporation	1	1	100	-	100	-	
Merton	7	5	71	29	71	-	
Newham	26	23	88	85	15	7	
Redbridge	12	8	67	92	8	3	
Richmond upon Thames	1	1	100	-	100	-	
Southwark	18	16	89	78	22	3	
Sutton	8	7	88	88	13	2	
Tower Hamlets	22	20	91	77	23	8	
Waltham Forest*	9	8	89	78	22	1	
Wandsworth	28	27	96	54	46	11	
Westminster	24	24	100	100	-	14	

SOURCE: CLG Table P131 ... Not applicable

RIGHT: Number of planning applications received, decided and granted by district level planning authorities



ng authority: London, OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2013

Decisions made in agreed time	Minor Developments						Other Developments					
	Total Minor Decisions	Number granted	Percentage granted	Percentage within 8 weeks	Percentage over 8 weeks	Percentage of major and minor decisions granted	Total Other Decisions	Number granted	Percentage granted	Percentage within 8 weeks	Percentage over 8 weeks	
709	30,334	25,594	84	70	30	85	70,285	56,074	80	84	16	
8	30	22	73	63	37	81	89	64	89	65	35	
7	261	198	76	82	18	76	789	443	84	94	6	
	84	64	76	81	19	77	308	234	87	90	10	
2	168	126	75	55	45	76	519	280	82	69	31	
1	164	120	73	71	29	74	565	350	78	82	18	
3	321	279	87	48	52	86	524	294	89	57	43	
	35	35	100	66	34	100	78	73	100	80	20	
3	343	269	78	73	27	78	434	193	75	81	19	
	205	152	74	87	13	76	522	267	76	94	6	
1	108	77	71	63	37	73	341	154	70	86	14	
2	222	170	77	85	15	77	195	133	84	83	17	
4	220	178	81	78	22	80	254	154	77	82	18	
8	119	101	85	88	12	84	604	491	89	96	4	
2	81	53	65	67	33	67	369	253	87	83	17	
	111	78	70	78	22	70	427	210	71	86	14	
5	98	72	73	37	63	72	334	247	89	80	20	
5	124	73	59	67	33	63	485	198	57	93	7	
9	89	70	79	61	39	83	604	247	79	75	25	
4	254	198	78	85	15	78	348	239	78	79	21	
8	295	249	84	74	26	85	678	490	84	73	27	
	78	51	65	69	31	67	308	166	73	83	17	
6	258	204	79	71	29	80	475	278	75	85	15	
6	270	235	87	79	21	87	204	114	80	74	26	
	14	14	100	57	43	100	11	11	100	100	-	
	98	71	72	55	45	72	407	241	85	60	40	
7	98	66	67	87	13	72	227	111	70	99	1	
3	83	56	67	54	46	67	414	224	74	67	33	
	260	222	85	68	32	85	702	409	82	82	18	
3	253	228	90	82	18	90	324	195	83	92	8	
2	77	58	75	73	27	76	268	198	91	91	9	
8	141	110	78	79	21	80	208	151	83	84	16	
1	122	83	68	69	31	69	321	101	80	88	12	
4	346	323	93	68	32	94	604	461	97	77	23	
14	754	659	87	68	32	88	1,118	947	88	71	29	

able or LA did not submit Source: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-planning-application-statistics>. Latest update: September 2013. Next update: June 2014

Planning performance *continued*

year ending December 2013, authorities received 464,400 planning applications, an increase of 1% compared to the year ending December 2012.

Planning decisions

In October to December 2013, authorities decided 104,700 planning applications, 1 per cent higher than in the same quarter in the previous year. In the year ending December 2013 authorities decided 422,900 planning applications, a decrease of 1 per cent compared to the year ending December 2012.

Applications granted

In October to December 2013, authorities granted 85,200 permissions, unchanged from the same quarter in 2012. Authorities granted 88 per cent of all decisions, 1 percentage point more when compared to the December quarter 2012. Overall, 85 per cent of major and minor decisions were granted.

Over the 12 months to December 2013, 346,800 applications were granted, little change from the year to December 2012. Authorities granted 88 per cent of all decisions in the year to December 2013, unchanged when compared to the year to December 2012. Overall, 85 per cent of major and minor decisions were granted.

Speed of decisions

In October to December 2013, 74 per cent of major applications were processed within 13 weeks, compared with 57 per cent in the December quarter 2012. Also, 70 per cent of minor applications and 84 per cent of other applications were processed within 8 weeks, compared with 68 per cent and 82 per cent respectively for the quarter ending December 2012. District level planning authorities decided 69 per cent of large-scale major applications, and 76 per cent of small-scale major applications within 13 weeks compared with 50 per cent and 58 per cent respectively for the quarter ending December 2012. Also, 92 per cent of all major decisions were within 52 weeks, an increase of 2 percentage points compared to the previous year.

In the year ending December 2013, 67 per cent of major applications were processed within 13 weeks, compared with 56 per cent in the year ending December 2012. This reflects a change since April 2013 where Planning Performance

Agreements, Extension of Time and Environmental Impact Assessments decided within the agreed time are included. Also, 70 per cent of minor applications and 83 per cent of other applications were processed within 8 weeks compared with 68 per cent and 81 per cent respectively in the year ending December 2012. District level planning authorities decided 62 per cent of large-scale major applications, and 68 per cent of small-scale major applications within 13 weeks compared with 49 per cent and 58 per cent respectively in the year ending December 2012. Also 92 per cent of all major decisions were within 52 weeks, an increase of 2 percentage points compared to the previous year.

Residential Decisions

In October to December 2013, there were 14,100 decisions on applications for residential developments, compared with around 13,300 decisions in the December quarter 2012, an increase of 6 per cent. The number of major residential decisions increased by 36% from 1,400 decisions in the December quarter 2012 to 1,900 decisions, while minor residential decisions increased by 3 per cent to 12,200 decisions. Authorities granted 82 per cent of major residential applications, no change from the December quarter 2012, and determined 68 per cent of them within 13 weeks, up from 45 per cent in the corresponding quarter of the previous year. Authorities granted 76 per cent of decisions on minor residential applications and determined 62 per cent within 8 weeks, compared with 74 per cent and 61 per cent respectively in the December quarter 2012.

In the year to December 2013, residential decisions increased by 7 per cent from 50,000 in the 12 months to December 2012 to 53,400 decisions. The number of major decisions increased by 31 per cent from 5,200 to 6,800 decisions while minor residential decisions increased by 4 per cent from 44,800 to 46,600 decisions. Authorities granted 82 per cent of major residential applications, up from 83 per cent compared with the year ending December 2012, and determined 60 per cent of them within 13 weeks, up from 45 per cent in the previous year. Authorities granted 76 per cent of decisions on minor residential applications and determined 62 per cent within 8 weeks, 2 percentage points more compared with the previous year. ■

Briefing



London First's report on London's housing crisis

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

London is in the midst of a housing crisis. Demand is growing and far outstrips supply – a trend that is set to endure and worsen as the population grows close to an anticipated 10 million people by 2030. This is hampering the capital's economic and physical growth and will continue to do so unless there is a significant step-change in the level of house building.

This report is the work of a group of London First members from across the housing supply chain, brought together to identify the reasons why London is building too few homes and produce solutions to resolve this issue.

The aim of our recommendations is to create the conditions to support more house building by making London an easy place to invest in, thereby attracting a greater range of housing developers into the market place. The challenges, and our responses to them, are as follows.

CHALLENGE 1

IMPROVING HOUSING DELIVERY THROUGH TARGETS, INCENTIVES AND PLANNING REFORMS

A new way to get more sites through the planning system must be introduced. The following changes should be made.

RECOMMENDATION 1

- The Mayor should set boroughs hard house building targets and take over the determination of housing applications where boroughs fail to