

# Number of planning applications falls again

The percentage of major applications decided in 13 weeks has declined markedly since Q3 2009-10, when it stood at 71 per cent

## Planning applications

In July to September 2012, authorities undertaking district level planning in England received 113,100 planning applications, a decrease of 7 per cent compared with the corresponding quarter in 2011. In the year ending September 2012, authorities received 466,900 applications, a decrease of 2% compared to the year before.

## Planning decisions

In July to September 2012, authorities decided 110,500 planning applications, 5 per cent lower than in the same quarter in the previous year. In the year ending September 2012 authorities decided 429,900 planning applications, a decrease of 1% compared to the year ending September 2011.

## Applications granted

In July to September 2012, authorities granted 89,900 permissions, 5 per cent lower than in the same quarter in 2011. Authorities granted 87 per cent of all decisions, unchanged when compared to the September quarter 2011. Overall, 84 per cent of major and minor decisions were granted. (see Table *RIGHT*)

Over the 12 months to September 2012, 350,400 applications were granted, a small decrease on the figure of 351,400 permissions granted in the year to September 2011. Authorities granted 87 per cent of all decisions in the year to September 2012, an increase of 1%. Overall, 84 per cent of major and minor decisions were granted.

## Speed of decisions

In July to September 2012, 57 per cent of major applications were processed within 13 weeks, unchanged compared to the September 2011 quarter. Also, 67 per cent of minor applications and 80 per cent of other applications were processed within 8 weeks compared with 71 per cent and 83 per cent respectively. District level planning authorities decided 50 per cent of large-scale major applications, and 59 per cent of small-scale major applications within 13 weeks compared with 48 per cent and 60 per cent respectively for the quarter ending September 2011. Also, 92 per cent of all major decisions were within 52 weeks compared to 91 per cent in the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

In the year ending September 2012, 57 per

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

Planning Authority	Major Developments					Total Decisions
	Total Major Decisions	Number granted	Percentage granted	Percentage within 13 weeks	Percentage over 13 weeks	
<b>England</b>	<b>3,077</b>	<b>2,690</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>21</b>
Barking and Dagenham	3	3	100	67	33	-
Barnet	8	5	63	13	88	-
Bexley	3	3	100	67	33	-
Brent	10	7	70	56	44	1
Bromley	14	8	57	64	36	-
Camden	10	8	80	75	25	2
City of London	16	16	100	81	19	-
Croydon	6	5	83	33	67	-
Ealing	15	13	87	60	40	-
Enfield	7	6	86	14	86	-
Greenwich	11	9	82	64	36	-
Hackney	7	2	29	86	14	-
Hammersmith and Fulham*	6	5	83	50	50	-
Haringey	3	2	67	33	67	-
Harrow	6	6	100	33	67	-
Havering	6	3	50	33	67	-
Hillingdon	13	8	62	31	69	-
Hounslow	10	10	100	40	60	-
Islington	13	11	85	38	62	-
Kensington and Chelsea	7	6	86	71	29	-
Kingston upon Thames	3	2	67	-	100	-
Lambeth	17	11	65	35	65	-
Lewisham*	-	-	-	-	-	-
London Thames Gateway UDC*	7	6	86	57	43	-
Merton	9	9	100	100	-	-
Newham	8	6	100	83	17	-
Redbridge	11	10	91	64	36	-
Richmond upon Thames	2	2	100	50	50	-
Southwark	11	11	100	55	45	-
Sutton	4	2	50	75	25	-
Tower Hamlets	16	15	94	44	56	-
Waltham Forest	9	7	78	44	56	-
Wandsworth	23	22	96	70	30	-
Westminster	22	21	95	77	23	-

CLG Table P131 ... Not applicable or LA did not submit Source: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/planning-applications>

cent of major applications were processed within 13 weeks, compared with 62 per cent in the year before. Also, 69 per cent of minor applications and 81 per cent of other applications were processed within 8 weeks compared with 72 per cent and 84 per cent respectively. District level planning authorities decided 49 per cent of large-scale major applications, and 59 per cent of small-scale major applications within 13 weeks compared with 56 per cent and 63 per cent

respectively in the year before.

## Historical context

The number of applications received in the quarter fell by seven per cent from the number in the June 2012 quarter, however the number of decisions slightly increased. The percentage of applications granted fell from 88%, but at 87% it is still higher than any quarter in the period 2007-08 to 2010-11. The percentage of major applica-

ing authority: London, July-September 2012

Performance Agreements	Minor Developments						Other Developments					
	Decisions made within agreed time limit	Total Minor Decisions	Number granted	Percentage granted	Percentage within 8 weeks	Percentage over 8 weeks	Percentage of major and minor decisions awarded	Total Other Decisions	Number granted	Percentage granted	Percentage within 8 weeks	Percentage over 8 weeks
18	30,263	25,301	84	67	33	84%	77,208	61,938	89	80	20	
-	62	45	73	61	39	74%	188	139	87	71	29	
-	216	168	78	34	66	77%	879	490	82	51	49	
-	80	62	78	76	24	78%	353	278	90	89	11	
1	202	160	79	71	29	79%	455	196	72	82	18	
-	149	88	59	48	52	59%	634	392	76	62	38	
2	426	336	79	83	17	79%	465	274	84	82	18	
-	55	55	100	67	33	100%	135	127	95	71	29	
-	272	213	78	54	46	78%	402	268	85	72	28	
-	197	154	78	78	22	79%	654	338	77	94	6	
-	107	72	67	63	37	68%	342	211	82	72	28	
-	101	82	81	89	11	81%	318	201	74	91	9	
-	137	89	65	82	18	63%	263	153	79	81	19	
-	106	85	80	86	34	80%	456	337	82	72	28	
-	74	48	65	54	46	65%	411	240	77	66	34	
-	116	70	60	74	26	62%	523	270	69	86	14	
-	61	34	56	66	34	55%	329	210	81	85	15	
-	121	73	60	79	21	60%	487	241	66	96	4	
-	105	88	84	50	50	85%	535	304	79	64	36	
-	146	115	79	55	45	79%	379	266	76	63	37	
-	318	252	79	71	29	79%	666	485	82	70	30	
-	90	61	68	47	53	68%	375	253	82	70	30	
-	188	130	69	70	30	69%	377	254	81	82	18	
-	182	146	80	67	33	80%	224	139	83	74	26	
-	-	-	-	-	-	86%	-	-	-	-	-	
-	71	56	79	59	41	81%	407	242	79	82	18	
-	84	53	63	80	20	66%	262	136	74	81	19	
-	117	74	63	34	66	66%	558	358	83	61	39	
-	238	199	84	76	24	84%	741	451	82	83	17	
-	212	176	83	72	28	84%	274	164	86	84	16	
-	65	48	74	60	40	72%	272	194	90	84	16	
-	155	122	79	45	55	80%	195	145	88	51	49	
-	126	66	52	80	20	54%	266	124	69	95	5	
-	314	283	90	47	53	91%	604	451	92	67	33	
-	806	683	85	65	35	85%	1,171	968	86	64	36	

ons. Latest update: January 2013. Next update: April 2013

tions decided in 13 weeks has declined markedly since Q3 2009-10, when it stood at 71 per cent, and it has fallen back slightly from the 60 per cent level since the last quarter.

However, this indicator can be volatile, and stood at just 43 per cent in 2002-03. The speed of decisions for minors and other applications have also fallen over the same period although not as quickly or steeply as that of major decisions. ■

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

