

NOTICE OF MEETING

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, 24th February, 2025, 7.00 pm - George Meehan House, 294 High Road, Wood Green, London, N22 8JZ (watch the live meeting [here](#) , watch the recording [here](#))

Councillors: Lotte Collett, Lester Buxton, Sean O'Donovan, Barbara Blake (Chair), Reg Rice (Vice-Chair), Nicola Bartlett, John Bevan, Cathy Brennan, Scott Emery, Emine Ibrahim and Alexandra Worrell

Quorum: 3

1. FILMING AT MEETINGS

Please note this meeting may be filmed or recorded by the Council for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site or by anyone attending the meeting using any communication method. Members of the public participating in the meeting (e.g. making deputations, asking questions, making oral protests) should be aware that they are likely to be filmed, recorded or reported on. By entering the 'meeting room', you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings.

The Chair of the meeting has the discretion to terminate or suspend filming or recording, if in his or her opinion continuation of the filming, recording or reporting would disrupt or prejudice the proceedings, infringe the rights of any individual, or may lead to the breach of a legal obligation by the Council.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence.

3. URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair will consider the admission of any late items of urgent business. (Late items will be considered under the agenda item where they appear. New items will be dealt with under item **10** below).

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A member with a disclosable pecuniary interest or a prejudicial interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered:

(i) must disclose the interest at the start of the meeting or when the interest becomes apparent, and

(ii) may not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must withdraw from the meeting room.

A member who discloses at a meeting a disclosable pecuniary interest which is not registered in the Register of Members' Interests or the subject of a pending notification must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest within 28 days of the disclosure.

Disclosable pecuniary interests, personal interests and prejudicial interests are defined at Paragraphs 5-7 and Appendix A of the Members' Code of Conduct

5. DEPUTATIONS / PETITIONS / PRESENTATIONS / QUESTIONS

To consider any requests received in accordance with Part 4, Section B, paragraph 29 of the Council's constitution

6. MINUTES (PAGES 1 - 4)

To confirm and sign the minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee meeting held on 17th October 2024 as a correct record.

7. PLANNING AND BUILDING CONTROL 2024/25 Q3 UPDATE (PAGES 5 - 30)

A report on the work of the Planning and Building Control services from October to December 2024.

8. INTERNAL AUDIT - PLANNING (PAGES 31 - 52)

A report on the internal audit of the Planning Service.

9. HARINGEY LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (PAGES 53 - 68)

The Council is required by law to prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme (LDS). The LDS is a public document which identifies the documents that will comprise the Council's Local Plan and the timetable for the preparation and revision of such documents. The Local Plan is the Council's main planning document used to decide applications for planning permission for new buildings and development, and is also a spatial expression of the borough's Vision. The Local Plan is subject to a legal requirement to regularly review it and keep it up-to-date.

This report proposes a revised LDS to replace the current outdated LDS published in November 2019. The updated LDS includes a detailed timetable for the production of the Council's new Local Plan which will replace the existing Haringey Local Plan adopted in 2017.

10. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

11. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

To note the dates of future meetings:

TBC

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Fiona Alderman

Head of Legal & Governance (Monitoring Officer)

George Meehan House, 294 High Road, Wood Green, N22 8JZ

Friday, 14 February 2025

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING Strategic Planning Committee HELD ON Thursday, 17th October, 2024, 7:00 – 7:45

PRESENT:

**Councillors: Sean O'Donovan, Barbara Blake (Chair), Nicola Bartlett,
John Bevan, Cathy Brennan, Emine Ibrahim and Alexandra Worrell**

1. FILMING AT MEETINGS

The Chair referred to the notice of filming at meetings and this information was noted.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Emery, Councillor Collett, Councillor Buxton and Councillor Rice.

3. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5. DEPUTATIONS / PETITIONS / PRESENTATIONS / QUESTIONS

There were no deputations/ petitions/ presentations/ questions.

6. MINUTES

RESOLVED

To confirm and sign the minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee held on 20th June as a correct record.

- It was noted by members that Northumberland Park seemed to have an increase in HMOs. Officers explained that this issue was to be picked up through new local plan policy, this would give officers greater control of the number of HMOs in borough.
- The number of agency staff in the Planning team was being reduced to 6.
- Officers had not seen any evidence of a link between HMOs and short term lets, nor a correlation with the stadium location and Northumberland Park.

7. PLANNING AND BUILDING CONTROL 2024/25 Q1-Q2 UPDATE

Rob Krzyszowski, Assistant Director for Planning, Building Standards and Sustainability introduced the report as set out in the agenda pack.

Planning Cross Cutting Matters –

The following was noted in response to questions from the committee:

- To ensure decisions met the statutory time limits, it was important to have a good working relationship with applicants. Officers would engage with applicants to make sure that they completed amendments to the scheme within the time limits, it was about the quality and the speed of this and also having a good working relationship and with the committee.

Development Management and Enforcement –

The following was noted in response to questions from the committee:

- There had been 200 HMO referrals this year, this was a substantial increase. This increase was due to new the licensing regime. Officers had met with the licensing team; a lot of cases would not necessarily require enforcement action. Officers could use some of the licensing fees to support the planning enforcement work.
- There had been a 10% decrease in minor decisions taken. Excluded applications could include things such as listed buildings or consent work to trees. Officers could list the different categories in future reports.
- Once an application process had exceeded 16 weeks, the applicant could request a refund of fees. The teams' approach was to try and progress all of those cases to a decision to avoid that refund request.
- Officers needed to look at whether there was a genuine need for additional enforcement resources.

Building Control –

- Job evaluation had been completed and turned around relatively quickly. The business case had taken some time to complete, this would go out to staff consultation in the next few weeks.
- Whilst Building Control has no formal powers regarding health & safety on construction sites, if there was a complaint in regard to scaffolding, the team could investigate the issue and report to the Health & Safety Executive (HSE).
- A majority of the jobs that would go to private inspectors were normally employed by the builders who were carrying out the work. Officers have added on informatives regarding the usage of Haringey Building Control.

RESOLVED

To note the report.

8. RESPONSE TO OMBUDSMAN COMPLAINT REFERENCE 23 016 137 (HARINGEY REFERENCE LBH/14192823) IN RELATION TO PLANNING APPLICATION HGY/2022/4537

Rob Krzyszowski, Assistant Director for Planning, Building Standards and Sustainability introduced the report as set out in the agenda pack.

There were no questions on this item.

RESOLVED

That this report be noted

9. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

There were no new items of urgent business.

Officers would bring the Infrastructure Funding Statement to the next available committee.

10. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

It was noted that the dates of the next meeting was 20th February.

CHAIR: Councillor Barbara Blake

Signed by Chair

Date

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Report for: Strategic Planning Committee 24 February 2025

Title: Planning and Building Control 2024/25 Q3 Update

Report authorised by: Rob Krzyszowski, Assistant Director, Planning, Building Standards & Sustainability

Lead Officers: Catherine Smyth, Head of Development Management & Planning Enforcement

Bryce Tudball, Head of Spatial Planning

Denis Ioannou, Interim Head of Building Control

Ward(s) affected: N/A

**Report for Key/
Non Key Decision:** For information

1. **Describe the issue under consideration**
A report on the work of the Planning and Building Control services from October to December 2024.
2. **Recommendations**
That this report be noted.
3. **Reasons for decision**
Not applicable.
4. **Alternative options considered**
This report is for noting and as such no alternative options were considered.
5. **Planning and Building Control 2024/25 Q3 Update**

National Planning Reforms

Update since last Strategic Planning Committee report

- 5.1 The October 2024 report to this Committee provided a summary of the Government **Consultation on 'Proposed reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and other changes to the planning system'**¹ which was published in July 2024 and closed in September 2024.
- 5.2 Since then, there have been a number of further announcements and consultations on national planning reform which are summarised below and in the 'Spatial Planning' section of this report.

Planning Reform Working Paper: Brownfield Passport

- 5.3 On 22 September 2024 the Government published a **Working Paper on Brownfield Passport: Making the Most of Urban Land**².
- 5.4 The paper considers a number of issues including:
- Exploring ways to **lower the risk, cost and uncertainty** associated with securing planning permissions on brownfield land
 - Incorporating updated policy on brownfield land within emerging new **National Development Management Policies** which will have effectively the same or more weight as other Development Plan documents (such as the Local Plan and London Plan)
 - Saying that development should be **at least four storeys** fronting principal streets where there is a high level of accessibility
 - Encouraging such parameters through **Local Plans, Design Codes and Local Development Orders** (which give automatic planning permission for certain prescribed development)
 - Not looking to do this through expansion of **permitted development rights** (national automatic grant of planning permission, subject to certain criteria and conditions)
- 5.5 This is only a 'working paper' and the Government has not yet published its final conclusions on Brownfield Passports.

Improving planning performance: criteria for designation

- 5.6 On 4 December 2024 the Government published an updated guidance document and explanatory memorandum on **Improving planning performance: criteria for designation**³.
- 5.7 This updated existing guidance on the **national performance metrics** that the Government monitors from all Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) to ensure high

¹ www.gov.uk/government/consultations/proposed-reforms-to-the-national-planning-policy-framework-and-other-changes-to-the-planning-system

² www.gov.uk/government/publications/planning-reform-working-paper-brownfield-passport

³ www.gov.uk/government/publications/improving-planning-performance-criteria-for-designation

performance and to inform Government decisions on whether to ‘designate’ or intervene in failing authorities. The key changes include:

- Increased **transparency of reporting on ‘Extension of Time’ (EOTs) agreements** through a new Planning Performance Dashboard. EOTs are used where it is agreed between the LPA and applicant that the application cannot be determined within the statutory time limit and more time is required.
- Changing the **assessment period for the speed of decision making** from 24 months as existing to looking at a 12 month period instead.
- **Not introducing a new performance measure only looking at the statutory decision period and ignoring EOTs.** This was a proposal consulted on by the previous Government but the new Government has decided not to take it forward, Instead the new Government says it will review in the future after additional resources have been introduced to LPAs.

Planning Reform Working Paper: Planning Committees

- 5.8 On 9 December 2024 the Government published a **Working Paper on Planning Committees**⁴.
- 5.9 The Government had already announced in the King’s Speech in July 2024 that it would improve “local decision making by **modernising planning committees**”, and these reforms would come through a new **Planning & Infrastructure Bill** expected in Spring 2025. The paper considers a number of proposals including:
- **National Scheme of Delegation** – to provide clarity and consistency on whether applications need to be decided by a Planning Committee or not and to ensure “skilled planning officers in LAs are given the appropriate amount of trust and empowerment”. Options include:
 - **Option 1** – Delegate if application complies with **Development Plan**
 - **Option 2**- Delegation as default with **exceptions for departures** from the Development Plan
 - **Option 3** – Delegation as default with **prescriptive list of exceptions** e.g. major development on unallocated sites, development departing from site allocation, subject to EIA, substantial harm to heritage, submitted by LPA Members or Officers, above a certain number of objections etc
 - **Hybrid** of the above
 - Note that Haringey’s Scheme of Delegation currently already operates akin to Option 3 / Hybrid
 - **Smaller, more strategic Committees** including:
 - **Threshold** for a ‘strategic’ Committee set locally or set at 500 homes / 50,000sqm (Haringey is 10 homes / 10,000sqm)
 - **Fewer members** on Committees e.g. 3-5 (Haringey has 11)

⁴ www.gov.uk/government/publications/planning-reform-working-paper-planning-committees/planning-reform-working-paper-planning-committees

- **Independent (unelected) expert Members** akin to at the Old Oak Park Royal and London Legacy Development Corporations (OPDC, LLDC)
- **Mandatory certified training for Members** including:
 - Training **topics** to include planning principles, legislation, national policy, Development Plans, planning application processes, planning enforcement, propriety, code of conduct, new planning issues
 - **Striking a balance** between ensuring comprehensive training but also the need to ensure Committees can meet quickly after an election period recess
 - **Principally providing training online** (Haringey does training in person)
 - **Procuring a national provider** (Haringey does training locally)
 - Haringey's protocol already requires training prior to sitting on Committee

Updated National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

- 5.10 On 12 December 2024 the Government published an **updated NPPF**⁵.
- 5.11 The new NPPF largely reflects those changes the Government consulted on during Summer 2024, which were reported to Strategic Planning Committee in October 2024. Key changes include:
- Increased emphasis on social rent housing
 - Changes to Green Belt policy, including 'Grey Belt' and 'Golden Rules'
 - Stronger support for energy efficiency and low carbon heating
 - A vision led approach to promoting sustainable transport
 - Stronger power to refuse hot food takeaways
 - Changes to the operation of the 5 Year Housing Land Supply requirement and additional 'buffer'

Planning Application Fees

- 5.12 On 12 December 2024 the Government published its **response**⁶ to the consultation it undertook in Summer 2024, including regarding the issue of **planning application fees**.
- 5.13 Further to what was reported to Strategic Planning Committee in October 2024, the Government is now proposing to:
- Increase **householder application** fees "at the earliest opportunity"
 - Increase **prior approval** fees "at a similar rate"
 - Set new fees for **discharge of conditions**
 - Set a new banded fee structure for '**section 73**' applications (amendments)

⁵ www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2

⁶ www.gov.uk/government/consultations/proposed-reforms-to-the-national-planning-policy-framework-and-other-changes-to-the-planning-system/outcome/government-response-to-the-proposed-reforms-to-the-national-planning-policy-framework-and-other-changes-to-the-planning-system-consultation

- Introduce new primary legislation through the Planning and Infrastructure Bill expected in Spring 2025 so that **LPA's can consult on and set their own fees**
- Continue to **investigate ways to better resource other areas of planning** such as conservation, design, enforcement and planning policy

5.14 In January 2025 the Government laid regulations⁷ in parliament which come into effect on 1 April 2025 to implement the first stage in increasing planning fees set out above. This includes:

- The new annual increase in line with the Consumer Price Index (CPI) at 1.7%
- Increasing householder application fees:
 - From £258 to £528 for a single dwellinghouse
 - From £509 to £1,043 for 2 or more dwellinghouses
 - From £258 to £262 for small-scale operations within the curtilage of a dwellinghouse e.g. gates, fences (only an inflationary increase)
- Moving from a flat fee for 'section 73' amendment applications of £292 to a tiered approach:
 - £86 for householders
 - £586 for other non-major development
 - £2,000 for major development
- Doubling fees for approval of details reserved by condition:
 - For householders from £43 to £86
 - For other development from £145 to £298
 - For submission of a Biodiversity Gain Plan from £145 to £298
- Increasing fees for 'prior approval' for permitted development rights:
 - From £120 to £240 if the development does not include building operations
 - From £258 to £516 if the development includes building operations
 - From £125 to £250 per dwellinghouse for changes from commercial to residential

⁷ www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2025/9780348267808

Development Management & Enforcement

Performance overview

5.15 An overview of performance is as follows. **Appendix One** explains the categories of applications.

- Applications received during April to December 2024/25: **2,216**
- Applications received during same period 2023/24: **2,029**
- Number of valid cases on-hand end of December 2024: **699**
- Number of valid cases on-hand end of Sept 2023: **755**
- Appeals decided during April to December 2024/25: **45**
- Appeals decided during same period 2023/24: **41**
- Appeals dismissed (won) during April to Sept 24/25: **33 (73%)**
- Appeals dismissed (won) during same period 2023/24: **23 (56%)**
- Cumulative performance (applications in time) 2024/25
 - **Majors: 100%**
 - **Minors: 91%**
 - **Others: 93%**
 - **PS1 Only: 95%**
 - **Decisions excluded from statutory figures: 71%**

5.16 As set out above performance is at 100% for 'Majors' applications. Our performance for 'Minor' and 'Other' applications shows a significant improvement on this time last year. Appeal performance has also improved.

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25 (end Dec)
Majors	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Minors	95%	90%	80%	88%	91%
Others	97%	91%	87%	88%	93%
PS0+ PS1	91%	91%	87%	98% (PS1 only)	95% (PS1 only)
PS Excluded			73%	60%	71%

Cumulative Performance. As of Sept 2022/23 'PS1' and 'PS Excluded' figures are reported separately within the new Arcus system. Prior to that both PS1 and PS Excluded were reported as a single return under 'PS0'

5.17 This table gives a further breakdown on the numbers of appeals:

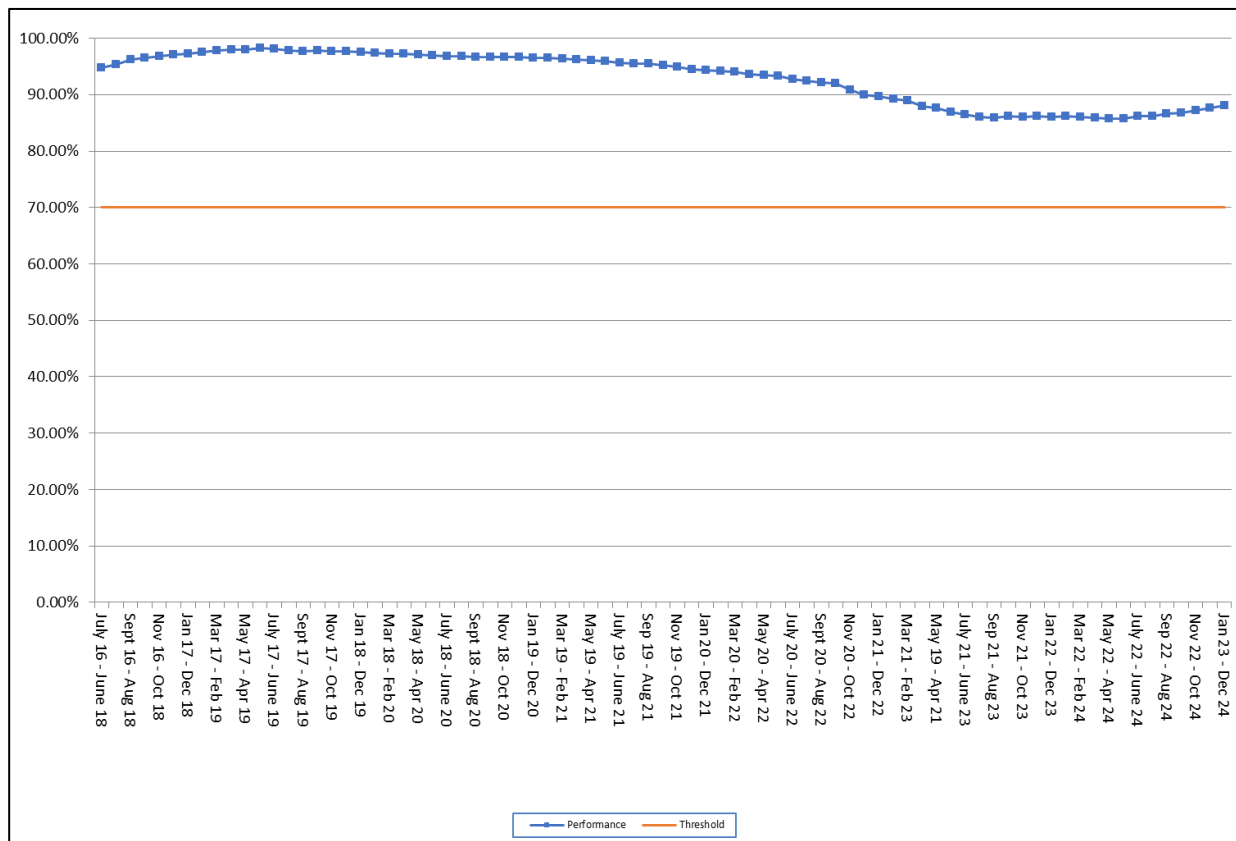
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25 (end Dec)
Appeals received	84	117	103	77	60
Appeals decided	56	106	106	56	45
Appeals allowed	13	23	20	24	12
Appeals dismissed	41	78	86	32	33
Appeals split Decision	2	5	0	0	0
% Appeals won	77%	78%	81%	57%	73%

5.18 The Government has three measures of application performance which the Council must remain within thresholds for. If we breach these thresholds we may be designated as a poorly performing planning authority and developers will then have the option of applying directly to the Planning Inspectorate for planning permission. This would mean that we don't get the fee income for that application but we are still required to undertake the consultation. In addition we lose the democratic right to determine the application. These are (assessed over a two-year rolling period):

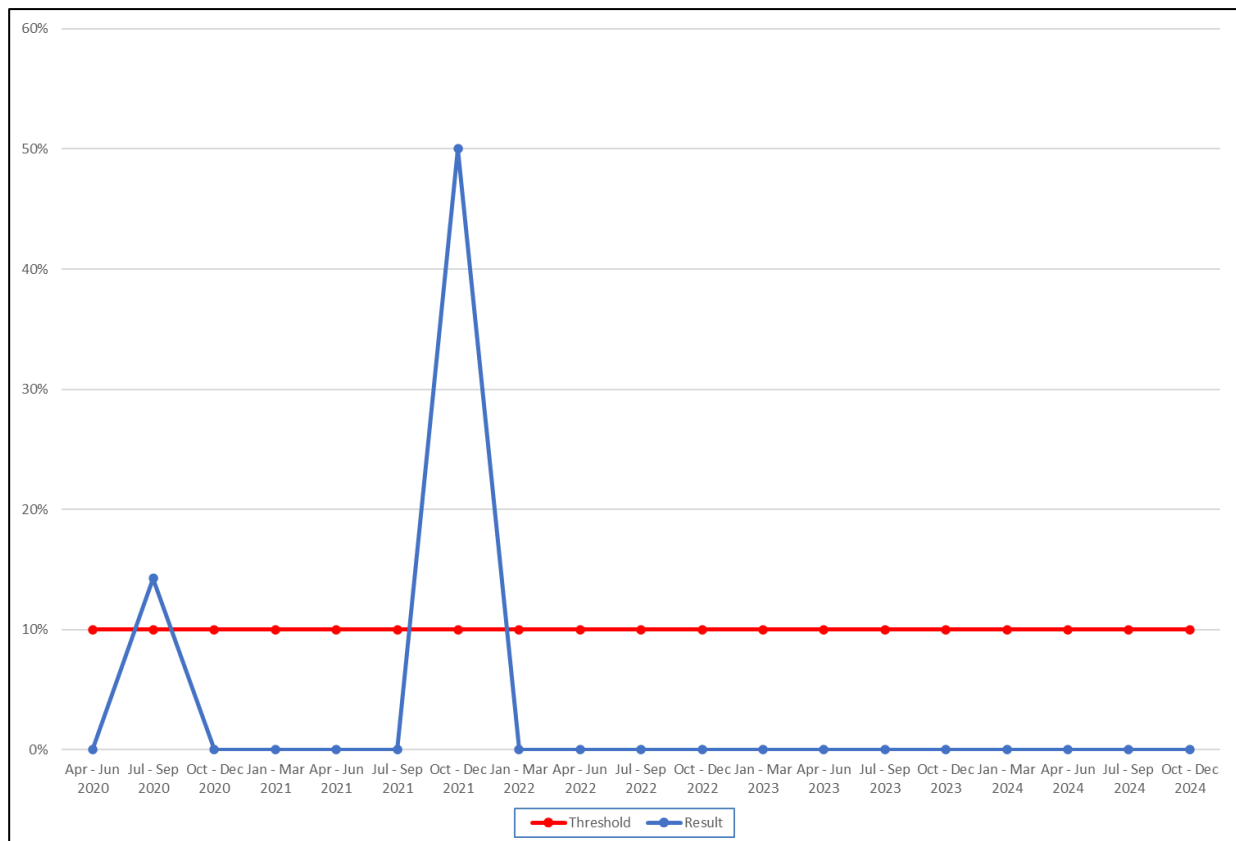
- Major applications performance at least 50%
- Minor and Other applications performance at least 70%
- Appeals lost (below 10% in both categories)

5.19 Major planning applications are assessed within a rolling 2-year period. A major application is deemed as 'within time' if the application is determined within the statutory 13-week deadline, or within the agreed Extension of Time (EOT) / Planning Performance (PPA) agreement. We are consistently at 100% performance within this area. Our current rolling figure reflects the period of January 2023 – December 2024 and is at 100% performance based on 45 out of 45 Major applications determined within time.

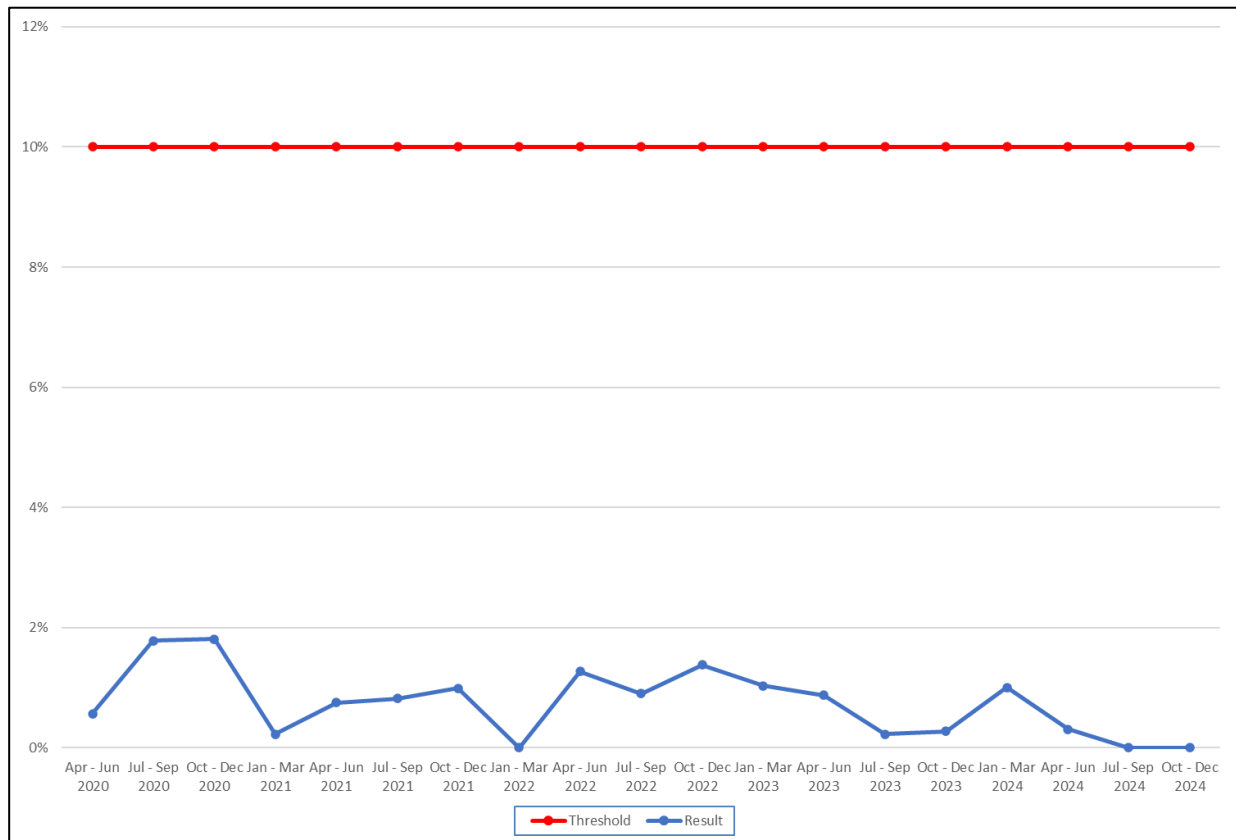
5.20 Planning minor / other applications are assessed as a combined decision count within a rolling 2-year period. A planning minor / other application is deemed as 'within time' if the application is determined within the statutory 8-week deadline, or within the agreed extension of time. We are consistently performing well above the 70%. Our current rolling figure reflects the period of January 2023 – December 2024 and is at 88% performance based on 2,651 out of 3,011 minor / other applications determined within time.



5.21 Major planning applications overturned within a 2-year rolling period is currently at 0%, which is below the 10% threshold. The figure is monitored on a quarterly basis. We must also note that the Planning Inspectorate have a lag of 6 – 12 months to when a decision is made on an appeal, and therefore our last 6 – 12 months' worth of data is subject to change. We currently have 3 Major pending appeals awaiting determination by the Planning Inspectorate, which could affect our performance if the appeal/s are allowed.



5.22 Decisions on Minor / Other planning applications overturned at appeal within a 2-year period is currently at 0%, which is also below the threshold of 10%. This figure is monitored on a quarterly basis. We must also note that the Planning Inspectorate has a lag of 6 – 12 months to when a decision is made on an appeal, and therefore our last 6 – 12 months' worth of data is subject to change. There are currently approximately 50 minor / other planning appeals pending with the Planning Inspectorate which could potentially increase our result line from January 2024 onwards, however we are well below the 10% threshold and are not expecting these decisions to significantly affect our performance.



5.23 For April to December 2024/25 we decided the following:

- **17 'Major'** applications (compared to the **16** last year this time)
- The average time of decision has decreased from 416 to 407 days but all have been subject to planning performance agreements or extensions of time due to the need for S106 agreements on applications of this scale.

	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25 (end Dec)
Major Apps decided	20	15	16	22	17

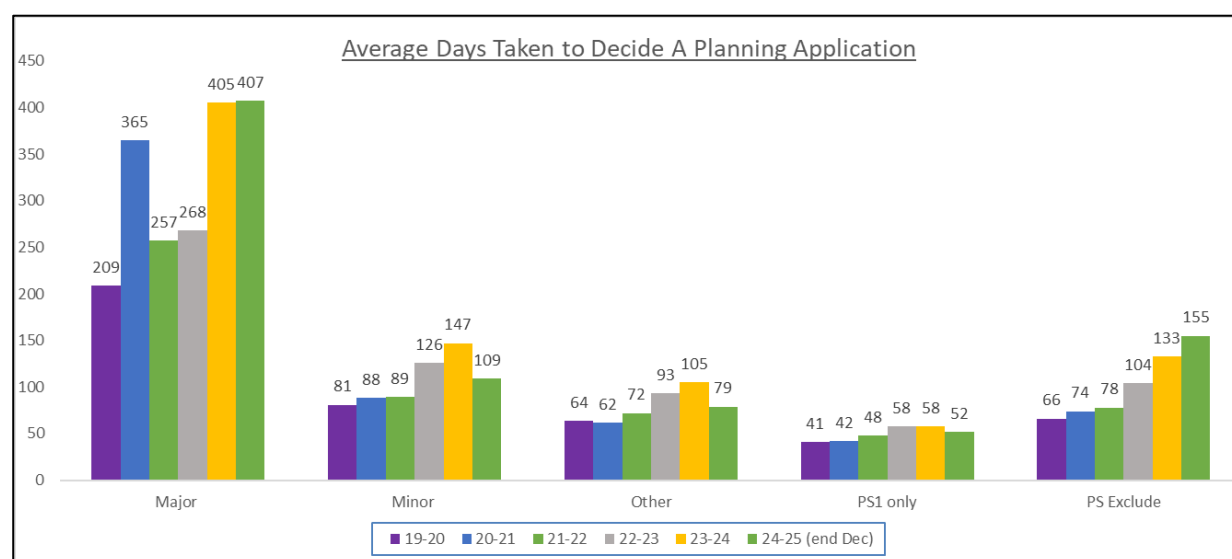
Major applications decided over past five years

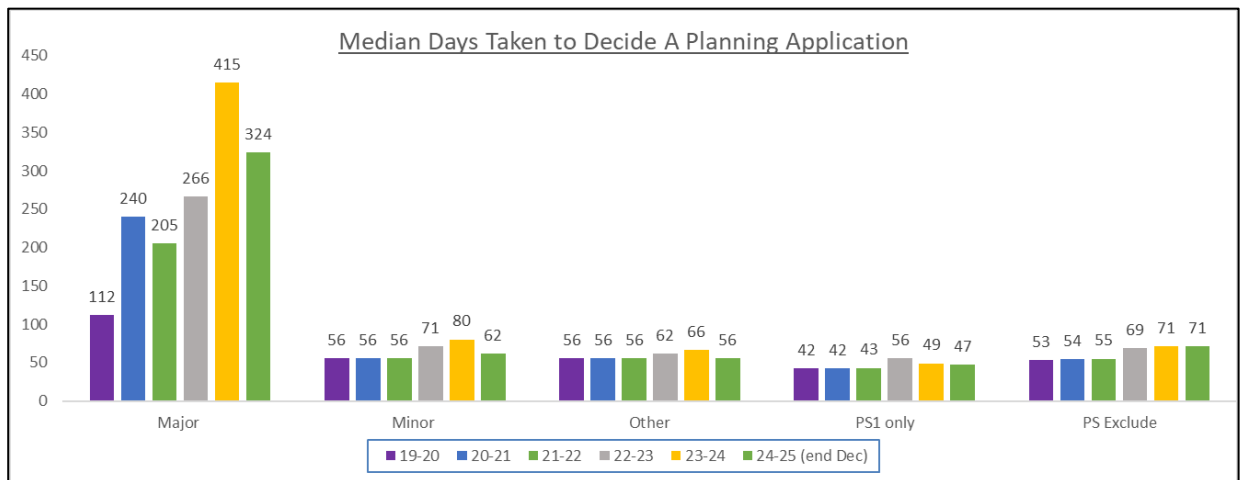
- **444 'Minor'** applications (compared to the 414 'Minor' applications last year)
- The average decision time has decreased from 127 days to 109 days
- **650 'Other'** applications (compared to the 722 'Other' applications last year)
- The average decision time has decreased from 100 days to 79 days

5.24 The end to end times for different types of applications are set out below. The average times have largely decreased in the current year but 'Excluded' applications average times have increased due to work clearing backlog applications.

Average and Median days to decision 2024/25 (April – December)

	Average Days to Decision	Median Days to Decision
Major	407	324
Minor	109	62
Other	79	56
PS1 only	52	47
Excluded	155	71



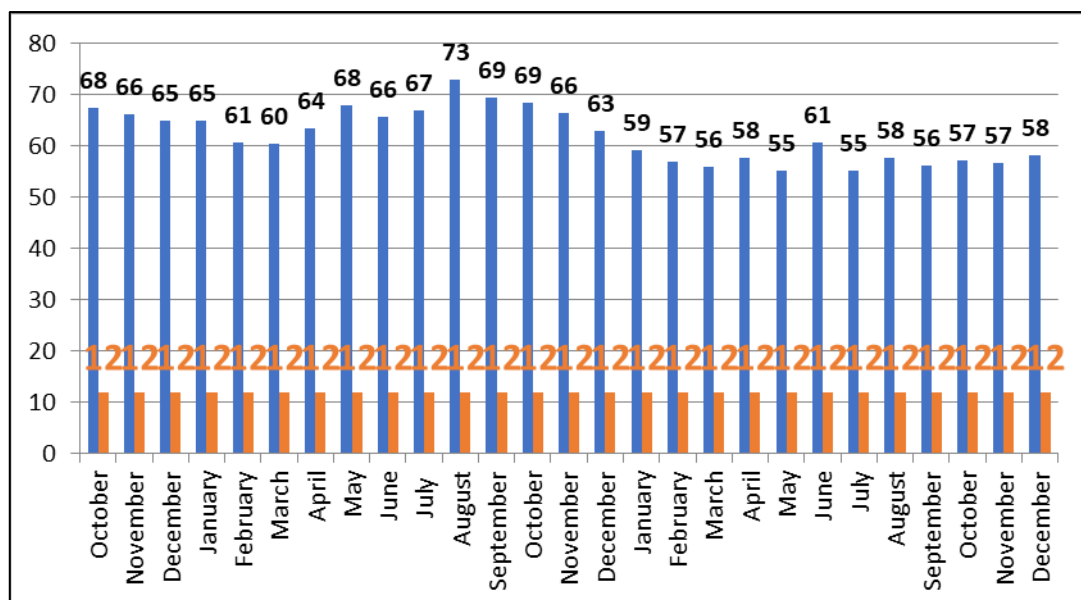


5.25 The overall numbers of applications received, approved, and refused over recent years is set out below:

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Received	3359	3522	3140	2750	2216 (end December)
Approved	2590 (85%)	2535 (84%)	2533 (88%)	2421 (88%)	1750 (89%)
Refused	475 (15%)	499 (16%)	333 (12%)	340 (12%)	226 (11%)
Total decided	3,065	3,034	2866	2761	1976

5.26 The length of time taken to validate an application is at an average of 14 days, decreased from 17 days due to workloads improving.

5.27 Officer caseloads are at around 58 per officer at the end of December 2024, which has decreased from 63 last year due to work on reducing the backlog.



Planning Advice Services

5.28 In April 2024 the Development Management Service worked with stakeholders to develop a Planning Advice Service Action Plan. This involved a review of the Council's Planning Advice Services internally and with customers to create an action plan for improvement. Several actions were taken including:

- A new portal for the submission of planning advice requests
- Improving monitoring to ensure timely responses
- Providing clarity of processes for fast-track applications
- Improving internal procedures to improve the quality of feedback

5.29 This has so far had a positive impact on pre-application income.

5.30 During April to December 2024 there were:

- 183 pre-application meetings (same period last year: 104) generating a total of £287,497 in income (same period last year: £211,934)
- 56 householder pre-application meetings (same period last year: 63) generating £51,337 in income (same period last year: £28,700)

5.31 The use of Planning Performance Agreements (PPAs) has generated £664,670 in income over the financial year to date, compared to £380,282 last year.

5.32 For express householder written advice, fast-track certificate of lawfulness and fast-track application services in April to December 2024 we received the following:

- 46 Express Pre-applications (same period last year: 24) generating a total of £29,223 (same period last year: £7,708)
- 10 Fast Track Certificate of Lawfulness applications (same period last year: 13) generating a total of £2,899 (same period last year: £8,743).
- 17 instances of Fast Track Householder applications (same period last year: 12) generating a total of £6,528 (same period last year: £9,576).

Planning Decisions

5.33 The final government threshold relates to overturns of refusals (officer and committee) of applications on appeal. We are at 0% on minor / other applications.

5.34 For major applications the measure for quality of planning decisions is the percentage of the total number of decisions made that are then subsequently overturned at appeal, once nine months have elapsed following the end of the assessment period.

5.35 The nine months specified in the measure enables appeals to pass through the system and be decided for the majority of decisions on planning applications made during the assessment period. The assessment period for this measure is the two years up to and including the most recent quarter for which data on

planning application decisions are available at the time of designation, once the nine months to be allowed for beyond the end of the assessment period is taken into account. The average percentage figure for the assessment period as a whole is used.

5.36 The threshold for designation on applications for both major and non-major development, is 10% of the total number of decisions on applications made during the assessment period being overturned at appeal. This is calculated as an average over the assessment period.

5.37 For the 2024 designation period (2022-24) we will not be designated.

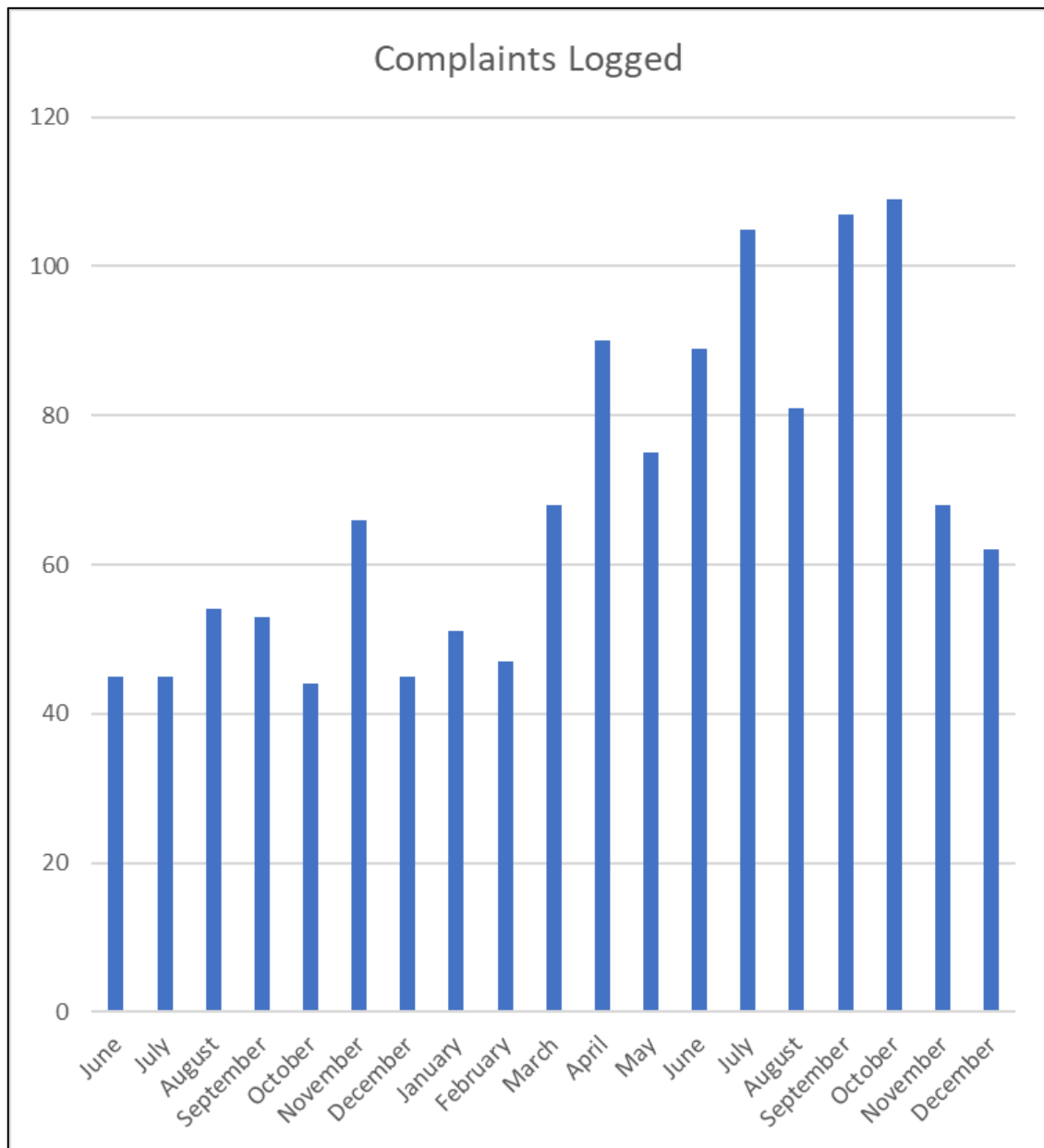
5.38 Haringey's performance is as follows:

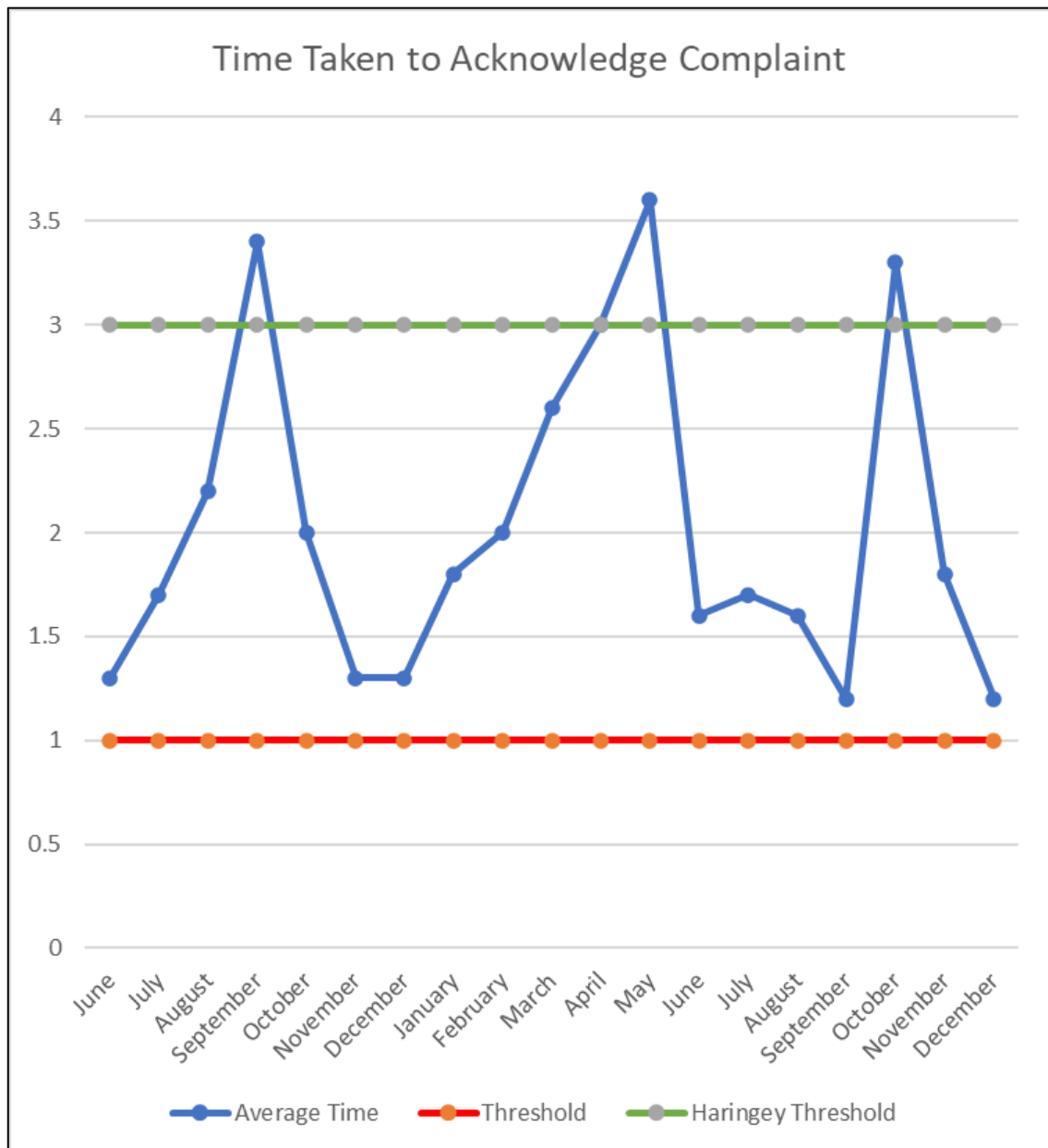
Type of application	Number of appeals	Number of overturns by PINS	% (Threshold 10%)
Majors 2023/24	45	0	0%

Planning Enforcement

- Enforcement complaints received during April to December 2024: 786 (compared to the 447 Enforcement complaints received last year).
- Enforcement notices served during 2024/25: 20 (compared to the 36 Enforcement notices served during the same period last year).

5.39 For 2024/25 enforcement complaints were acknowledged within an average of 2.1 days of receipt. The Planning Enforcement Team has a target to make a decision on enforcement complaints within 8 weeks.





	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Cases received	632	605	790
Cases decided within 8 weeks	68/176 (39%)	121/258 (47%)	190/516 (37%)
Cases decided not within 8 weeks	28/176 (16%)	14/258 (5%)	9/516 (1%)
Cases with no decision past 8 week target date	80/176 (45%)	123/258 (48%)	317/516 (62%)

- 5.40 There is an ongoing issue with high caseloads that has been significantly exacerbated by high numbers of HMO referrals. Changes in the Private Sector Housing referrals procedure has meant almost all their applications are now being referred to planning. To put this into context the team received about 54 HMO referrals in 2022/23 for the whole of the year but has received around 200

HMO referrals in 2024/25 to date. Officers are working with Private Sector Housing on a process that will help to prioritise HMO cases that should be progressed and to create efficiencies to improve the overall service.

- 5.41 The Planning Enforcement Team continues to seek prosecutions against owners who have failed to comply with existing enforcement notices which can in turn lead to confiscation orders for ill gotten gains under the Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) 2002.
- 5.42 An ongoing BT phone box project has so far resulted in the successful removal of five boxes and BT have earmarked a further 10 boxes for removal. Officers are looking to engage further with BT and to open a dialogue about voluntarily removing redundant problem boxes.

Member Training & Site Visits

- 5.43 A site visit took place on 6 December 2024 to Aaron Gayle Court, Partridge Way, which also included a discussion with the Quality Review Panel co-chairs and a representative from the Council house building team.
- 5.44 A learning visit is being organised to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.
- 5.45 Any suggestions are welcome for visits and training.

Spatial Planning

New Local Plan

- 5.46 The Planning Policy Team continues to prepare a New Local Plan for the borough. To support this process, four meetings of the New Local Plan Member Working Group were held in October and November 2024 for Strategic Planning Committee members to inform emerging site allocations. The current timetable for the New Local Plan is subject to revision and is addressed below.

Haringey Local Development Schemes (LDS)

- 5.47 The Council is required by law to publish a Local Development Scheme (LDS). The LDS is a document which sets out the **timetable and project plan** for developing a new Local Plan.
- 5.48 As part of the Government's regular **Planning Newsletter – Message from the Chief Planner**⁸ in December 2024, there was a statement that “the Deputy Prime Minister has asked that **all LPAs produce an updated Local Development Scheme (LDS) within 12 weeks** of the publication of the NPPF, i.e. by no later than 6 March 2025”.
- 5.49 Haringey's latest LDS was published in November 2019 and is out-of-date. A new LDS has therefore been prepared and will be considered by Cabinet for approval in March 2025. This is subject to a separate report to Strategic Planning Committee.
- 5.50 The timetable outlined in the new LDS for the Local Plan is as follows:

Document	Regulation	Date
New Local Plan First Steps Engagement consultation	Reg 18	November 2020-February 2021
Draft Local Plan consultation	Reg 18	July-September 2025
Proposed Submission Local Plan consultation	Reg 19	May-June 2026
Submission & Examination	Reg 22-25	July-November 2026
Adoption	Reg 26	February 2027

- 5.51 Approval will be sought from Cabinet in June 2025 to consult on the Draft Local Plan. Strategic Planning Committee will be presented with a copy of the Draft Local Plan and associated documents in advance for comment and feedback.
- 5.52 It is noted that the timeline for consultation on the Draft Local Plan is slightly delayed versus the timetable presented to Strategic Planning Committee following the Planning Service Peer Challenge. The reasons for the delay are to provide an appropriate opportunity to consider the implications of the newly published National Planning Policy Framework, to align with the emerging next

⁸ www.gov.uk/guidance/planning-guidance-letters-to-chief-planning-officers

London Plan (see below), and to enable robust internal governance on the Draft Local Plan.

Updated Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (PPTS)

5.53 On 12 December 2024 the Government published an **updated national Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (PPTS)**⁹.

5.54 The updated PPTS **amended the planning definition of gypsies and travellers** as follows (tracked changes):

For the purposes of this planning policy “gypsies and travellers” means: Persons of nomadic habit of life whatever their race or origin, including such persons who on grounds only of their own or their family’s or dependants’ educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, and all other persons with a cultural tradition of nomadism or of living in a caravan, but excluding members of an organised group of travelling showpeople or circus people travelling together as such.

~~In determining whether persons are “gypsies and travellers” for the purposes of this planning policy, consideration should be given to the following issues amongst other relevant matters:~~

- ~~a) whether they previously led a nomadic habit of life~~*
- ~~b) the reasons for ceasing their nomadic habit of life~~*
- ~~c) whether there is an intention of living a nomadic habit of life in the future, and if so, how soon and in what circumstances.~~*

5.55 The Council will need to apply the new definition through its work on the emerging new London Plan and Local Plan. The GLA has been preparing a pan-London Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment for the past 18 months which seeks to identify needs for such accommodation in all London Boroughs. Planning Policy officers have engaged closely on this and understand the GLA will be publishing the final study in Spring 2025.

Updated Standard Method for Housing Need

5.56 On 12 December 2024 the Government published an **updated national Standard Method for Housing Need**¹⁰ and **Outcome**.

5.57 In London, **housing targets are set by the London Plan**. Haringey’s existing target from the London Plan 2021 is **1,592 homes per year**.

5.58 The Government’s updated Standard Method Outcome provides a **new figure of 2,956 homes per year for Haringey**. However, in London, housing targets are set by the London Plan so this figure is only hypothetical. The London target has been updated from 66,000 homes per year since 2021 to a **new figure of 87,992 homes per year**. This is a significant increase and means it is likely that the emerging new London Plan will need to set a figure for Haringey higher than

⁹ www.gov.uk/government/publications/planning-policy-for-traveller-sites

¹⁰ www.gov.uk/guidance/housing-and-economic-development-needs-assessments

its existing 1,592 homes per year target. The changing figures are summarised in the below table:

New homes per year	Haringey	London
Existing London Plan (2021)	1,592	66,000
Previous standard method	3,009	98,822
Draft standard method (July)	2,716	80,693
New standard method (December)	2,956	87,992
New London Plan	TBC	87,992

Housing Delivery Test 2023 Measurement

- 5.59 On 12 December 2024 the Government published the **Housing Delivery Test 2023 Measurement**¹¹.
- 5.60 The Housing Delivery Test **looks back over the previous 3 years of housing completions** and compares this to the housing requirement (or 'target'). The **2023 result for Haringey is 99%**. It should be noted that the requirement 'target' of 1,592 for Haringey has been reduced somewhat for the purposes of this Test to make allowances for the Covid-19 pandemic and the impact on the construction industry. This is summarised in the below table:

Haringey New homes per year	Requirement	Completions	%
2020-21	1000	1623	162%
2021-22	1502	1504	100%
2022-23	1564	905	58%
Total HDT 2023 Measurement	4066	4032	99%

- 5.61 Given the Council's current performance against the Housing Delivery Test is good there are no consequences related to under-delivery of housing in the borough.

Next London Plan

- 5.62 The current London Plan was published in 2021. As part of the requirement to review the plan every 5 years, the GLA, on behalf of the Mayor of London, has commenced work on the next London Plan. An indicative timetable has been announced for this as follows:
- High level document – Towards a London Plan (expected March 2025)
 - Draft London Plan consultation (by March 2026)

¹¹ www.gov.uk/government/collections/housing-delivery-test

- Examination process (2026 – 2027)
- Adoption (2027)

5.63 The London Plan 2021 housing targets are up to date until March 2026. The GLA has asked the Government to roll forward these existing targets until the next London Plan is adopted. To support the plan's preparation and responses to significant challenges such as an increased housing delivery target, a comprehensive evidence base is under preparation. Planning Policy officers have been closely involved in this including feeding into the GLA's LAND4LDN programme which aims to understand and identify the availability of land to deliver London's housing need. Officers will also contribute to a forthcoming London-wide review of the Green Belt which has been announced by the Mayor.

Building Control

Awards

- 5.64 Haringey Building Control was a finalist in the **Local Authority Building Control Team of the Year** category at the National **LABC Building Excellence Awards 2024**. This is despite the team losing 4 members of staff in April 2024 but retaining a good number of qualified Registered Building Inspectors.

Performance Overview

- 5.65 The applications to date this year are slightly below previous years, and market share has fallen, partly as a result of the new Regulatory regime and the uncertainty it has caused. Building Control has received a significant number of new housing schemes and continue to work on the majority of schemes within the Borough and are currently working on a number of high rise schemes as the Building Control advisor for the Building Safety Regulator. The team currently has a number of vacancies, and recruitment has proved difficult as a result of low supply of Registered Building Inspectors.

Building Control	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Applications	1996	2323	1717	2645	2069	1517	1200
Fees	604k	600k	561k	766k	698k	584K	525K
Site visits	6817	6278	5603	6243	5674	3800	2119
Market share	54%	62%	53%	57%	40%	40%	37%
Dangerous Structures	190	162	159	225	204	188	107
Demolition Notices	13	29	20	18	22	15	15

2024/25 - from 1 April to 31 December 2024

Dangerous structures

- 5.66 There have been 107 dangerous structure calls to date this year. It should again be noted that where we request the help of our dangerous structure contractor, there is a cost attached to this that initially comes out of Building Control's budget until we can invoice the owner. Additionally, we are part of a consortium with a number of other London Boroughs which improves efficiency and is more cost effective.

Building Control reforms

- 5.67 The Government continues to implement reform of the Building Control regime. In December 2024 the Government announced a Fundamental Review of Building Regulations Guidance and a review panel is expected to be established in 'early 2025'. The service will continue to monitor this and the

Government's response to the Grenfell Tower Inquiry Phase 2 Report and wider reforms to Building Control to ensure Haringey continues to be fully compliant.

- 5.68 Consultation with staff on a Building Control Restructure, including updated job profiles, has taken place.
- 5.69 We now have a total of two Apprentice building control surveyors in Haringey as part of the Local Authority Building Control (LABC) Academy programme to support the future resilience of the service.

6. Contribution to strategic outcomes

- 6.1 The Planning and Building Control services contribute to the Corporate Delivery Plan's focus on tackling inequality, climate justice and health across all of the various themes.

7. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Planning Applications are on the Planning Register on the Council's website and the Local Plan documents are also on the Council's website.

Appendices

Appendix One – Definitions of Categories of Development

APPENDIX ONE

Definitions of Categories of Development

Major Development

- 10+ dwellings / over half a hectare / building(s) exceeds 1000m²
- Office / light industrial - 1000+ m² / 1+ hectare
- General industrial - 1000+ m² / 1+ hectare
- Retail - 1000+ m²/ 1+ hectare
- Gypsy/traveller site - 10+ pitches
- Site area exceeds 1 hectare

Minor Development

- 1-9 dwellings (unless floorspace exceeds 1000m² / under half a hectare)
- Office / light industrial - up to 999 m²/ under 1 hectare
- General industrial - up to 999 m²/ under 1 Hectare
- Retail - up to 999 m²/ under 1 hectare
- Gypsy/traveller site - 0-9 pitches

Other Development

- Householder applications
- Change of use (no operational development)
- Adverts
- Listed building extensions / alterations / demolition
- Application for relevant demolition of an unlisted building within a Conservation Area
- Certificates of Lawfulness (191 and 192)
- Prior Notifications
- Permissions in Principle (PiP) and Technical Detail Consent (TDC)

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Report for: Strategic Planning Committee 24 February 2025

Title: Internal Audit - Planning

Report authorised by: Rob Krzyszowski, Assistant Director, Planning, Building Standards & Sustainability

Lead Officer: Bryce Tudball, Head of Spatial Planning

Catherine Smyth, Head of Development Management & Enforcement

Ward(s) affected: N/A

Report for Key/
Non Key Decision: For information

- 1. Describe the issue under consideration**
A report on the internal audit of the Planning Service.
- 2. Recommendations**
That this report be noted.
- 3. Reasons for decision**
Not applicable.
- 4. Alternative options considered**
This report is for noting and as such no alternative options were considered.
- 5. Internal Audit - Planning**

Background
 - 5.1 In September 2024 an internal audit was undertaken of the Planning service as part of the Council's routine audit plan.
 - 5.2 A final audit report was completed in October 2024, provided as Appendix 1.
 - 5.3 The headlines of the audit report were provided to Audit Committee in December 2024.
 - 5.4 The audit report is being provided in full to Strategic Planning Committee for information.
 - 5.5 The internal audit was undertaken by Forvis Mazars, contracted by the Council.

Findings and recommendations

- 5.6 The summary opinion of the internal audit report was of “**Adequate Assurance**”.
- 5.7 The summary action plan of the internal audit report includes recommendations as follows:

Ref	Recommendations
1. Authority Monitoring Reports (AMRs)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Publish an Authority Monitoring Report covering the period 2021 – 2024, as soon as possible. 2. Implement contingencies to ensure an annual Authority Monitoring Report is produced. 3. Internally flag/report on the Council not having produced an Authority Monitoring Report since July 2021 and therefore being non-compliant with legislation e.g., at Director / Committee level. 4. Include comprehensive data in Authority Monitoring Reports on completion of major schemes, housing mix delivered and affordable housing completions.
2. Local Plan timetable	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revise the timeline to prepare a New Local Plan. 2. Identify resources to prepare a new Local Plan before the existing Local Plan becomes out of date.
3. Appeal information in Strategic Planning Committee reports	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update the Strategic Planning Committee Reports to ensure they include data on the number of appeals received.
4. Statutory deadlines for planning application decisions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remind Planning Officers to regularly review the Arcus dashboard and circulate the weekly Arcus reports to them to ensure they are aware of “due this week” planning applications. 2. The Council should investigate if Arcus has the functionality to generate automatic reminders for Planning Officers to alert them to applications reaching their statutory deadlines.

- 5.7 The management comments, agreed actions and timescales in response to the recommendations are provided in full in the report (Appendix 1).

6. Contribution to strategic outcomes

- 6.1 The Planning and Building Control services contribute to the Corporate Delivery Plan’s focus on tackling inequality, climate justice and health across all of the various themes.

7. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Appendices

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London Borough of Haringey: Internal Audit Final Report

Planning 2024/25

Audit Sponsor: Rob Krzyszowski (Assistant Director for Planning Building Standards and Sustainability)

Audit Contacts: Bryce Tudball (Head of Spatial Planning) Robbie McNaugher (Head of Development Management and Planning Enforcement)

Month Year
Reporting Timetable

Debrief Meeting: 16/09/24

Comments Received: 17/10/24 / 23/10/24

Draft Report Issued: 04/10/24

Final Report Issued: 24/10/24

forv/s
mazars

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Disclaimer

This report ("Report") was prepared by Forvis Mazars LLP at the request of the London Borough of Haringey (LBH) and terms for the preparation and scope of the Report have been agreed with them. The matters raised in this Report are only those which came to our attention during our internal audit work. Whilst every care has been taken to ensure that the information provided in this Report is as accurate as possible, Internal Audit have only been able to base findings on the information and documentation provided and consequently no complete guarantee can be given that this Report is necessarily a comprehensive statement of all the weaknesses that exist, or of all the improvements that may be required.

The Report was prepared solely for the use and benefit of the LBH and to the fullest extent permitted by law Forvis Mazars LLP accepts no responsibility and disclaims all liability to any third party who purports to use or rely for any reason whatsoever on the Report, its contents, conclusions, any extract, reinterpretation, amendment and/or modification. Accordingly, any reliance placed on the Report, its contents, conclusions, any extract, reinterpretation, amendment and/or modification by any third party is entirely at their own risk. Please refer to the Statement of Responsibility in Appendix A2 of this report for further information about responsibilities, limitations and confidentiality.

Your One Page Summary

Audit Objective: to assess the design and effectiveness of key systems and controls in relation to the management of planning applications.

Audit rationale

Why the Audit is in Your 2024/25 Plan

To ascertain if the Council has appropriate controls in place to comply with national legislation and policy (including the National Planning Policy Framework, NPPF) and London-wide and local policy.

Your Strategic Risk

The Council fails to develop and deliver an up-to-date sound Local Plan and determine planning applications in line with the legislative and policy framework, including the NPPF.

Summary of our opinion

Adequate Assurance

See Appendix A2 for definitions

Summary of Findings

High (Priority 1)	-	Findings Agreed	100%
Medium (Priority 2)	1	Priority 1 completion	NA
Low (Priority 3)	3	Overall completion	March 2025

X

Summary of findings

Examples of good practice

- ✓ From our sample testing of ten planning applications, we confirmed Arcus, a development management system, is used to log and process planning applications
- ✓ Supporting documents for all ten planning applications were retained in Arcus
- ✓ For each of the ten planning applications, an Officer's Report (for minor applications) or Planning Committee Report (for major applications) was available on the Council portal

Medium Priority Findings

- An Authority Monitoring Report has not been published since July 2021

Key root causes

- The GLA supports London Boroughs with their planning monitoring functions via a London-wide monitoring database linked to the Planning Portal. The GLA switched to a new database in 2022 since which time the automatic monitoring functions for Haringey have not been operational. This has meant the Council has not been able to complete a full Authority Monitoring Report for over two years.



01 Summary Action Plan

Below is a high level summary of the actions that are intended to support your management of this risk area. Further detail about our findings, which have been discussed with management, are provided in our detailed action plan (see 03 Detailed Action Plan).

Ref	Recommendation	Priority	Responsible Person	Due Date
1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Publish an Authority Monitoring Report covering the period 2021 – 2024, as soon as possible. 2. Implement contingencies to ensure an annual Authority Monitoring Report is produced. 3. Internally flag/report on the Council not having produced an Authority Monitoring Report since July 2021 and therefore being non-compliant with legislation e.g., at Director / Committee level. 4. Include comprehensive data in Authority Monitoring Reports on completion of major schemes, housing mix delivered and affordable housing completions. 	Medium	Bryce Tudball, Head of Spatial Planning	31/03/2025
2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revise the timeline to prepare a New Local Plan. 2. Identify resources to prepare a new Local Plan before the existing Local Plan becomes out of date. 	Low	Bryce Tudball, Head of Spatial Planning	31/12/2024
3	Update the Strategic Planning Committee Reports to ensure they include data on the number of appeals received.	Low	Robbie McNaugher, Head of Development Management & Planning Enforcement	17/10/2024
4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remind Planning Officers to regularly review the Arcus dashboard and circulate the weekly Arcus reports to them to ensure they are aware of “due this week” planning applications. 2. The Council should investigate if Arcus has the functionality to generate automatic reminders for Planning Officers to alert them to applications reaching their statutory deadlines. 	Low	Kevin Tohill, Interim Head of Development Management & Planning Enforcement	01/01/2025

02 Value for Money and Sector Comparison

Within each of our reports, we summarise any observations we have made about the effectiveness, efficiency and economy of your operations. This is to support our portfolio of public and social sector organisations with value for money considerations. We also summarise how you compare to similar organisations, which is intended to bring you the benefit of our insight.

Value for Money (VfM)	Sector Comparison
 <p>There are some VfM implications in the management of planning applications. It is important to embed a clear and robust approach to efficiently process planning applications, as this can allow for maximising potential revenue streams and reduce unnecessary costs. In theory, the Council achieves efficiency through the use of Arcus where planning applications and appeals are logged and processed. Arcus stores all application and appeals correspondence in one place, making it efficient to monitor progress.</p> <p>VfM can also be achieved through the identification of all necessary financial contributions from developers, via Financial Viability Assessments, as this ensures that the maximum viable level of contributions are achieved for residents and reducing the financial burden on the Council. In our sample of ten planning applications the two applicable samples (major applications) had the necessary Financial Viability Assessments.</p> <p>VfM implications are also influenced by a desire for equity. The promotion of sustainable strategies, that have been subject to a sustainability appraisal, enables the Council to ensure approved planning applications contribute to positive social, environmental and economic impacts that distribute the benefits of an effective planning management system across the Borough. The Council's Local Plan (2017) includes a <i>Strategic Policies</i> document that sets out the Council's commitment to a "An environmentally sustainable future" and a "low carbon Haringey".</p>	<p>Local Authorities are required to publish an annual Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) on their planning policies as well as progress towards the Local Plan. We found that the last AMR was published for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 and there has been no AMR published since.</p> <p>To ensure that planning applications are processed in a timely manner, to mitigate the risk of lost income and reputational damage, clear targets for processing applications are established and monitored against statutory national deadlines. We confirmed the Strategic Planning Committee are provided with quarterly and annual updates on Planning and Building Control by the Planning, Building Standards and Sustainability team. These updates include Performance against statutory requirements for processing applications and answering appeals.</p>  <p>Effective planning management requires robust central oversight of the planning system and the performance of the planning service, to ensure the Council is making progress to achieve key housing delivery targets. We confirmed the Strategic Planning Committee is provided with quarterly and annual updates on Planning and Building Control by the Planning, Building Standards and Sustainability division.</p>

03 Detailed Action Plan

We have identified areas where there is scope to improve the control environment. Our detailed findings are provided below. Definitions for the levels of assurance and recommendations used within our reports are included in Appendix A1.

1 An Annual Monitoring Report has not been published since July 2021	
Finding(s) and Risk	Recommendation(s)
<p>Section 113 of the Localism Act 2011¹ requires Local Authorities to publish an annual Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) which details the implementation of the local development scheme and the extent to which the policies set out in the local development documents are being achieved.</p> <p>Our review of the most recent Authority Monitoring Report published on the Council's website confirmed that it was produced in July 2021 for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020. The Council has not produced an annual Authority Monitoring Report since.</p> <p>The GLA supports London Boroughs with their planning monitoring functions via a London-wide monitoring database linked to the Planning Portal. The GLA switched to a new database in 2022 since which time the automatic monitoring functions for Haringey have been operational. This has meant the Council has not been able to complete a full Authority Monitoring Report for over two years. The Assistant Director for Planning, Building Standards and Sustainability informed us that in the absence of the GLA's usual significant support, the Planning Policy team has had insufficient resources to complete a manually prepared Authority Monitoring Report. An Assistant Planning Officer has been recently recruited and is completing some of the monitoring work. However, we did not review evidence of this. They also informed us that the Council not producing an Authority Monitoring Report since 2020 has not been flagged internally.</p> <p>Risk and Impact: Where an annual Authority Monitoring Report is not published, there is a risk that Council does not comply with legislative requirements.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Publish an Authority Monitoring Report covering the period 2021 – 2024, as soon as possible. 2. Implement contingencies to ensure an annual Authority Monitoring Report is produced. 3. Internally flag/report on the Council not having produced an Authority Monitoring Report since July 2021 and therefore being non-compliant with legislation e.g., at Director / Committee level. 4. Include comprehensive data in Authority Monitoring Reports on housing mix delivered and affordable housing completions.
	Root Cause(s)
	<p>The GLA supports London Boroughs with their planning monitoring functions via a London-wide monitoring database linked to the Planning Portal. The GLA switched to a new database in 2022 since which time the monitoring functions for Haringey have not been operational. This has meant the Council</p>

¹ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted>

has not been able to complete a full Authority Monitoring Report for over two years.

Management Comments / Agreed Actions

The Greater London Authority (GLA) supports London Boroughs with their planning monitoring functions via the provision of a London-wide monitoring database linked to the Government's Planning Portal. In the usual course of events, this means that the Council's Authority Monitoring Report can be substantially completed by running automated reports in the GLA's software. However, following a switch of software in 2022 from the London Development Database (LDD) to a new Planning London Datahub (PLD), it has taken over two years for the system to pull through planning records from Arcus/the Planning Portal and to restore the previous automated functionality. Coupled with resource challenges within the Planning Policy Team and the absence of dedicated internal resource to 'manually' complete Authority Monitoring Reports, it has meant the Council has been unable to discharge its full duties related to planning monitoring.

Due to the Transport Planning team moving to a different Directorate, the Head of Planning Policy, Transport & Infrastructure role was only recruited to on an interim acting up basis and the substantive position of Planning Policy Team Manager was kept vacant. The move of Transport Planning took much longer than expected which meant this interim arrangement and vacancy continued for much longer than would have been ideal. The move of Transport Planning out of the service completed in March 2024, staff consultation on a new structure was completed in May 2024, the new Head of Spatial Planning post was permanently recruited to in July 2024, and the new Policy, Conservation & Design Team Manager post was recruited to in October 2024. Further backfilling of posts becoming vacant will be completed by the end of 2024.

The independent Planning Service Peer Challenge undertaken by the Local Government Association Planning Advisory Service in October 2023 stated that "Data from the last few years, compared to other London Boroughs, shows the Haringey planning service appears to be below average for staffing numbers", Haringey has a "lightly resourced local plan team" and "only a very small planning policy team of only 5... with an unfilled post of Planning Policy Team Manager... this is less than we would expect to see in a planning policy team for a London Borough". The Council's Cabinet approved an Action Plan in March 2024 in response to the Peer Challenge and the actions are now nearing completion and pending a return visit from the peer team.

The Planning Policy Team has worked closely with the GLA to help reach a resolution with PLD and its functionality is understood now to be approaching that of the previous LDD. With this in place the Council will shortly be able again to prepare Authority Monitoring Reports by running automated reports.

Responsible Person	Bryce Tudball, Head of Spatial Planning	Action Due Date	31 March 2025
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		Priority Level	Medium
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2 A delay in adopting the new Local Plan

Finding(s) and Risk

An up-to-date Local Plan should be in place to ensure the Council's current planning priorities and objectives are captured and these are known to key stakeholders.

The Council's current Local Plan covers the period from 2013 to 2026, and it was formally adopted and consolidated in 2017. The First Steps Engagement (2020) and The New Haringey Local Plan – First Steps Engagement documents state the timeline for adopting a new Local Plan had a target date of 2022. However, this has not been met and the new Local Plan is currently being drafted.

Risk and Impact: Where the Local Plan is not adopted in line with the set target dates there is a risk that the first step engagement will be obsolete, resulting in the Local Plan failing to reflect the current needs and priorities of the Borough.

Recommendation(s)

1. Revise the timeline to prepare a New Local Plan.
2. Identify resources to prepare a New Local Plan before the existing Local Plan becomes out of date.

Root Cause(s)

A lack of resources to meet the set timeline.

Management Comments / Agreed Actions

It is acknowledged that the Council has not met the original timetable envisaged to produce a New Local Plan. There are a variety of reasons for this but principally delays owe to resourcing levels within the Planning Policy Team, a long-term vacancy of the Planning Policy Team Manager role, and a budget necessity to complete as much work as possible in-house. Due to the Transport Planning team moving to a different Directorate, the Head of Planning Policy, Transport & Infrastructure role was only recruited to on an interim acting up basis in August 2021 and the substantive position of Planning Policy Team Manager was kept vacant. The move of Transport Planning took much longer than expected which meant this interim arrangement and vacancy continued for much longer than would have been ideal. The move of Transport Planning out of the service completed in March 2024.

The risks identified through the internal audit have already been brought to the attention of the Planning Policy Team via the independent Planning Service Peer Challenge undertaken by the Local Government Association Planning Advisory Service in October 2023. As a consequence of these risks being highlighted, a series of actions are already in train to address them as set out in the Action Plan prepared in response to the Peer Challenge findings.

A key issue raised by the Peer Challenge was a lack of dedicated and specific leadership and management of local plan production" and stated that "Data from the last few years, compared to other London Boroughs, shows the Haringey planning service appears to be below average for staffing numbers", Haringey has a "lightly resourced local plan team" and "only a very small planning policy team of only 5... with an unfilled post of Planning Policy Team Manager... this is less than we would expect to see in a planning policy team for a London Borough". The issue of a lack of dedicated and specific leadership and management of local plan production has already been addressed following the move of Transport Planning out of the service in March 2024. Staff consultation on a new structure was completed in May 2024, the new Head of Spatial Planning post was permanently recruited to in July 2024,

and the new Policy, Conservation & Design Team Manager post was recruited to in October 2024. Further backfilling of posts becoming vacant will be completed by the end of 2024.

Another substantive issue raised by the Peer Challenge was a lack of clarity around how the New Local Plan will be resourced, and it was recommended “A detailed and resourced programme to produce the new local plan should be produced, with specific project management support, recognising the resources required, the timetable for delivery and confirming the proposed timescales are deliverable. This programme has been prepared with support from the Directorate’s Programme Management function and its delivery is being overseen by the newly appointed Head of Spatial Planning and newly appointed Policy, Conservation & Design Team Manager. The revised timeline to produce the New Local Plan, taking account of available resources, has since been published in a publicly available report to the Council’s Strategic Planning Committee.

Concern regarding the First Steps Engagement becoming obsolete are noted together with a risk that the Local Plan will fail to reflect current needs and priorities of the Borough. Since the First Steps Engagement was carried out in 2021 the Council has not held any formal public consultations related to the Local Plan, however, there has been ongoing liaison and engagement with a range of key stakeholders as the Draft Local Plan has been developed. In addition, the Council has conducted a range of other key consultations including on a new Borough Vision, an Inclusive Economy Framework (Opportunity Haringey), placemaking frameworks for Wood Green and Tottenham (Shaping Wood Green and Shaping Tottenham), a new Parks and Green Spaces Strategy, and a new Walking and Cycling Action Plan. Consideration of responses to these consultations as summarised in consultation reports will help ensure the Draft Local Plan reflects current needs and priorities of the Borough.

Responsible Person	Bryce Tudball, Head of Spatial Planning	Action Due Date	December 2024
		Priority Level	Low

3 The Strategic Planning Committee Reports do not include key performance data

Finding(s) and Risk	Recommendation(s)
<p>To provide sufficient oversight over the Council's performance in processing planning applications, regular reporting should be carried out.</p> <p>We found that the Strategic Planning Committee are provided with quarterly and annual Planning and Building Control Updates.</p> <p>Our review of the Strategic Planning Committee meeting minutes from November 2023, February 2024 and June 2024 noted that the reports do not include data on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of appeals received; • Completion of major schemes; • Housing mix delivered; and • Number of affordable housing completions. <p>Risk and Impact: Where performance data does not cover all aspects of the planning process, there is a risk that key data is not reported on nor scrutinised, this could result in low performance going unnoticed and the Council failing to achieve key housing delivery targets.</p>	Recommendation(s)
	Root Cause(s)
	<p>The requirement to report on the number of appeals received, has not been considered.</p>

Management Comments / Agreed Actions

The number of appeals received and decided has been added to the Strategic Planning Committee report for 17th October 2024. This has been broken down into appeals allowed, dismissed and split decisions. A calculation of the % of appeals won has also been provided. The data covers a 5-year period.

The risk identified around the reporting of completion of major schemes, housing mix, affordable housing completions, is noted. This information is comprehensively reported on with Authority Monitoring Reports. Of note, this information will be included within upcoming Authority Monitoring Reports for 2022-2024 as set out in Section 1 of this Action Plan.

Responsible Person	Robbie McNaugher, Head of Development Management & Planning Enforcement	Action Due Date	17 October 2024
		Priority Level	Low

4 Planning application decisions are not communicated within statutory deadlines

Finding(s) and Risk	Recommendation(s)
<p>The Town and Country Planning Order (2015) details that the period for providing a decision on minor planning applications is "8 weeks beginning with the day immediately following that on which the application is received"².</p> <p>We found a weekly dashboard is generated from Arcus and contains three reports: "Applications due this week", "Applications due tomorrow" and "Applications due today" with the relevant Case Officer named for each application. These reports are shared with Managers for their oversight.</p> <p>We selected a sample of ten planning applications from a list of planning applications received between 1 August 2023 and 31 August 2024 to test the timeliness of the decision made.</p> <p>For one planning application (HGY/2024/0010) received on 1 January 2024, with a deadline for communicating the outcome on 27 February 2024, we identified the decision was communicated on 30 April 2024 (with a delay of 45 working days).</p> <p>Risk and Impact: Where planning application decisions are not communicated in a timely manner, there is a risk of non-compliance with statutory guidance, this could result in designation as a poorly performing local authority.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remind Planning Officers to regularly review the Arcus dashboard and circulate the weekly Arcus reports to them to ensure they are aware of "due this week" planning applications. 2. The Council should investigate if Arcus has the functionality to generate automatic reminders for Planning Officers to alert them to applications reaching their statutory deadlines.
	Root Cause(s)
	Planning Officers do not review the impending application due dates.

Management Comments / Agreed Actions

Haringey's performance against statutory metrics is in the top quartile nationally with around 90% of applications decided within statutory deadlines and 100% for major applications. Haringey is also currently performing very well against designation measures. However, performance can still improve and there is a renewed focus on optimising the use of Arcus which has the functionality to generate automatic reminders for Planning Officers to alert them to applications reaching their statutory deadlines. Once the frequency and detail of such alerts is finalised this will be implemented.

Responsible Person	Action Due Date
	January 2025

² <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2015/595/article/34/made>

	Kevin Tohill, Interim Head of Development Management & Enforcement Planning	Priority Level	Low
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A1 Audit Information

Agreed Audit Objective and Scope

The objectives of our audit were to ascertain whether the LBH has in place adequate and appropriate policies, procedures and controls in relation to the Financial Assessment of Clients with a view to providing an opinion on the extent to which risks in this area are managed. The audit considered the following risks relating to the area under review:

- **Area 1** – Key stakeholders are unaware of the Council's planning policies. This could introduce uncertainty about what will and won't be permitted in the borough and lead to inappropriate proposals and challenges in assessing and determining planning applications.
- **Area 2** – Views of key stakeholders in the community are not obtained or considered, this could result in dissatisfaction/resistance when delivering the local plans and development proposals.
- **Area 3** – Applications are not processed in a timely manner, which results in lost income and risks designation as a poorly performing authority by the Government.
- **Area 4** – A lack of central oversight of all applications and applications are not managed in a timely manner, this could lead to a high volume of backlog/chasers from developers.
- **Area 5** – Development proposal decisions are not made using the required documentation/evidence, this could result in the Council approving/rejecting proposals inaccurately.
- **Area 6** – Decisions are not made in a timely manner; this could result in non-compliance with the Government's determining a planning application guidance and statutory targets leading to designation as a poorly performing authority.
- **Area 7** – Appeals are not responded to and deadlines are missed, meaning decisions are not defended, this could cause reputational implications for the Council.
- **Area 8** – A lack of oversight over the performance of the planning service, this could result in the Council failing to achieve key housing delivery targets.

Scope Limitations

In giving this assessment, it should be noted that assurance cannot be absolute. The most an Internal Audit service can provide is reasonable assurance that there are no major weaknesses in the framework of internal control. Any testing performed was conducted on a sample basis. Our work does not provide any guarantee against material errors, loss or fraud or provide an absolute assurance that material error, loss or fraud does not exist.

This review has not provided assurance on whether the Council is or is not compliant with the law and the NPPF but rather the arrangements in place to achieve compliance.

Definitions of Assurance Levels and Recommendation Priority Levels

Definitions of Assurance Levels	
Substantial Assurance	The framework of governance, risk management and control is adequate and effective.
Adequate Assurance	Some improvements are required to enhance the adequacy and effectiveness of the framework of governance, risk management and control.
Limited Assurance	There are significant weaknesses in the framework of governance, risk management and control such that it could be or could become inadequate and ineffective.
Nil Assurance	There are fundamental weaknesses in the framework of governance, risk management and control such that it is inadequate and ineffective or is likely to fail.

Definitions of Recommendations		
High (Priority 1)	Significant weakness in governance, risk management and control that if unresolved exposes the organisation to an unacceptable level of residual risk.	Remedial action must be taken urgently and within an agreed timescale.
Medium (Priority 2)	Recommendations represent significant control weaknesses which expose the organisation to a moderate degree of unnecessary risk.	Remedial action should be taken at the earliest opportunity and within an agreed timescale.
Low (Priority 3)	Recommendations show areas where we have highlighted opportunities to implement a good or better practice, to improve efficiency or further reduce exposure to risk.	Remedial action should be prioritised and undertaken within an agreed timescale.

Statement of Responsibility

We take responsibility to the LBH for this report which is prepared on the basis of the limitations set out below.

The responsibility for designing and maintaining a sound system of internal control and the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities rests with management, with internal audit providing a service to management to enable them to achieve this objective. Specifically, we assess the adequacy and effectiveness of the system of internal control arrangements implemented by management and perform sample testing on those controls in the period under review with a view to providing an opinion on the extent to which risks in this area are managed.

We plan our work in order to ensure that we have a reasonable expectation of detecting significant control weaknesses. However, our procedures alone should not be relied upon to identify all strengths and weaknesses in internal controls, nor relied upon to identify any circumstances of fraud or irregularity. Even sound systems of internal control can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance and may not be proof against collusive fraud.

The matters raised in this report are only those which came to our attention during the course of our work and are not necessarily a comprehensive statement of all the weaknesses that exist or all improvements that might be made. Recommendations for improvements should be assessed by you for their full impact before they are implemented. The performance of our work is not and should not be taken as a substitute for management's responsibilities for the application of sound management practices.

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Report for: Strategic Planning Committee 24 February 2025

Title: Haringey Local Development Scheme

Report authorised by : Rob Krzyszowski, Assistant Director Planning, Building Standards & Sustainability

Lead Officer: Bryce Tudball, Head of Spatial Planning

Ward(s) affected: All

**Report for Key/
Non Key Decision:** Key Decision

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1 The Council is required by law to prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme (LDS). The LDS is a public document which identifies the documents that will comprise the Council's Local Plan and the timetable for the preparation and revision of such documents. The Local Plan is the Council's main planning document used to decide applications for planning permission for new buildings and development, and is also a spatial expression of the borough's Vision. The Local Plan is subject to a legal requirement to regularly review it and keep it up-to-date.
- 1.2 This report proposes a revised LDS to replace the current outdated LDS published in November 2019. The updated LDS includes a detailed timetable for the production of the Council's new Local Plan which will replace the existing Haringey Local Plan adopted in 2017.
- 1.3 This report seeks Strategic Planning Committee's agreement to refer this report and the appended LDS to Cabinet with the recommendation to adopt the revised LDS.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

- 2.1 The LDS is a document setting out a timetable for the preparation of a new Local Plan for the Borough. The Local Plan is the Council's main planning document and provides a framework for placemaking, as well as managing new buildings, development, and infrastructure in the borough.
- 2.2 Our existing Local Plan was adopted in 2017 since which time a number of significant changes have happened. These include changes to national policy and legislation, the adoption of a new London Plan, the COVID-19 pandemic, the Council's declaration of a climate emergency and the revision of the

Council's strategic aspirations for Haringey, including a new Vision for the future of Haringey and the creation of Haringey Deal.

- 2.2 A new Local Plan is a key opportunity to help deliver the Council's Vision of what it wants for Haringey by 2035: a place where we can all belong and thrive. Furthermore, it is a key opportunity to deliver on the Haringey Deal—allowing local residents, businesses and organisations to shape development and change in Haringey's communities and neighbourhoods, and for us to hear the voices of those that are too often overlooked.
- 2.3 In this context, we need a new Local Plan to provide a robust and fit-for-purpose planning framework for the borough which is as effective as possible in achieving Haringey's priorities and addressing the issues we face. The LDS does not set out any draft or emerging policy content but is important to indicate to members, residents and businesses when the Council intends to prepare the new Local Plan and which documents will be comprised in the same.

3. Strategic Planning Committee is asked to:

- 3.1 Note the content of this report and the appended LDS
- 3.2 To agree to refer this report and the appended Local Development Scheme to Cabinet with the recommendation to adopt the Local Development Scheme.

4. Reasons for decision

- 4.1 Under Section 15 (1) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended), the Council has a statutory duty to maintain an up-to-date LDS. The revised LDS fulfils this duty, reflecting the current timetable for the preparation of the Council's new Local Plan.
- 4.2 In light of the changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) in December 2024, the Deputy Prime Minister has asked that all local planning authorities produce an updated LDS within 12 weeks of the publication of the NPPF (i.e. 6 March 2025).

5. Alternative options considered

- 5.1 The option of not updating the LDS has been considered but is dismissed, because Section 15 (1) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) requires local planning authorities to maintain their local development scheme and Section 19(1) of the Act that Local Plans be prepared in accordance with the LDS. This includes complying with the timetable contained in the LDS. If the project timetables for preparing the Local Plan and that in the LDS differ significantly, this is likely to lead to a finding of non-compliance with the statutory legal test at the independent examination of the Local Plan.

- 5.2 Therefore, the only valid option available is to revise the out-of-date timetable in the LDS to reflect the current timetable to satisfy the legal requirements of the Act.

6. Background information

- 6.1 The LDS is required to be published by law. The primary legislation, secondary legislation and national government guidance relating to LDSs comprises:
- The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) ('the Act');
 - The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended) ('the Regulations'); and
 - National Planning Practice Guidance on Plan-making¹.
- 6.2 The Council must prepare and maintain a LDS as required by Section 15(1) of the Act and paragraph 003 of the National Planning Practice Guidance on Plan Making.
- 6.3 The LDS is important because it keeps the public and other stakeholders informed of the Local Plan documents the Council is intending to prepare. Importantly, it also establishes the timetable for when the Local Plan will be prepared, highlighting key milestones such as the public consultation stages.
- 6.4 In light of the changes to the NPPF in December 2024, the Deputy Prime Minister has asked all local planning authorities to produce an updated LDS within 12 weeks of the publication of the NPPF (i.e. 6 March 2025).
- 6.5 The Council's current LDS was last revised and adopted in November 2019. It set out timescales for three development plan documents: New Local Plan (borough wide), Wood Green Area Action Plan, and North London Waste Plan.
- 6.6 **New Local Plan:** The Council has not met the original timetable envisaged to produce a New Local Plan. There are a variety of reasons for this but principally delays owe to resourcing levels within the Planning Policy Team and a long-term vacancy of the Planning Policy Team Manager role. The Planning Service Peer Challenge, which took place in October 2023 and was facilitated by the Local Government Association (LGA) Planning Advisory Service (PAS), made a number of recommendations to address progress on the New Local Plan which were subsequently agreed by Cabinet in March 2024 as part of an associated Action Plan. These were:

Recommendation 2: There should be a dedicated officer lead for the local plan. The unfilled position of Planning Policy Team Manager and the combined responsibilities of the Head of Planning Policy, Transport & Infrastructure is not giving enough priority to the production of the local plan. This must be seen as key going forward.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/plan-making>

Recommendation 4: A detailed and resourced programme for the production of the new local plan should be produced, with specific project management support, recognising the resources required, the timetable for delivery and confirming the proposed timescales are deliverable.

- 6.7 These recommendations have both been implemented and a Draft Local Plan containing a full set of draft policies and proposals is now at an advanced stage of preparation ready for consultation in Summer 2025, subject to Cabinet approval in June 2025. The Draft Local Plan builds upon the Council's First Steps Engagement delivered in late 2020/early 2021 which won regional and national awards in 2022 and was described by the Royal Town Planning Institute as "an example of an imaginative, innovative, inclusive industry leading approach to planning consultation".
- 6.8 **Wood Green Area Action Plan:** The Council has not progressed the Wood Green Area Action Plan to adoption. The principal reasons for this include focusing resources on the New Local Plan and the considerable uncertainty around Crossrail 2 due to a delay in the confirmation of the final Crossrail 2 route and the subsequent decision made during the pandemic as part of the Transport for London Funding Agreement to pause further work on the design and development of the scheme. Instead, the policies and proposals for Wood Green will be incorporated into the aforementioned New Local Plan which will cover the entire borough. This approach is consistent with the Government's preference for consolidated Local Plans.
- 6.9 **North London Waste Plan:** The North London Waste Plan was adopted in July 2022. This was slightly behind schedule due to a prolonged and complex examination of the plan. The North London Waste Plan is not due for review at the current time therefore the New Local Plan is the only development plan document currently under preparation.
- 6.10 The LDS at Appendix A, which has been prepared having regard to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended), The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 as amended ('the Regulations') and National Planning Practice Guidance on Plan-making, sets out details of the Local Plan documents which the Council intends to prepare. At the current time, this is limited to the Council's New Local Plan. The New Local Plan will be a consolidated Local Plan covering the entire borough. The timetable in the LDS for preparing the Council's New Local Plan is as follows:

Preparation stage	Regulation	Date
New Local Plan First Steps Engagement consultation	Reg 18	November 2020-February 2021
Draft Local Plan consultation	Reg 18	July-September 2025
Proposed Submission Local Plan consultation	Reg 19	May-June 2026
Submission to the Planning Inspectorate & Examination	Reg 22-25	July-November 2026
Adoption	Reg 26	February 2027

6.11 There is no requirement to consult on an LDS.

7. Contribution to the Corporate Delivery Plan 2022-2024 High level Strategic outcomes

7.1 The completion of the Council's new Local Plan will support the delivery of both the Council's Borough Vision and key outcomes in the Corporate Delivery Plan 2024-2026. Not only will it enable the Council to better manage development in the Borough, but assist in the delivery of other corporate priorities around placemaking, economic development and housing delivery including:

- identifying sufficient land for Haringey's future housing and economic development needs;
- focusing new development to where it can be best managed;
- delivery high-quality design and placemaking
- securing inward investment through the development of key strategic sites;
- assisting with land assembly required to bring about comprehensive development that maximises the delivery of community benefits;
- securing and sustaining the vitality and viability of our District and Local Centres and designated employment areas; and
- enhancing the quality and capacity of social and physical infrastructure required to support growth and achieve more sustainable communities.

8. Carbon and Climate Change

8.1 The New Local Plan aims to deliver three overarching placemaking objectives, the third of which is: "a Sustainable and Resilient Place, with strong communities, a regenerating natural environment and on target to be net zero carbon by 2041". To help achieve this the plan will contain a substantially enhanced approach to reducing carbon and increasing sustainability. This approach will be embedded throughout the entire plan and will be supported by a new strategic policy requiring all development in the borough to achieve a Zero Carbon balance. To deliver this, proposals must minimise embodied carbon emissions in accordance with a new Embodied Carbon Hierarchy, minimise waste by applying new Circular Economy Principles, and achieve net zero operational carbon by following a new Operational Carbon Hierarchy.

9. Statutory Officers comments

Finance and Procurement

- 9.1 The preparation and publication of the LDS 2025 is a statutory requirement. This process will be managed within the existing Policy, Conservation & Design Team staff budgets and does not require additional funding.

Procurement

- 9.2 There are no implications arising directly from this report.

Legal

- 9.3 This report is seeking approval of the updated LDS as required under section 15 (1) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) for the reason explained in section 6 of this report, which if approved must be published on the Council's website together with a copy of the amendments made and information regarding the Council's compliance with the timetable in the same.
- 9.4 LDSs must specify the following information which it is confirmed the updated LDS does in section 6.10 of this report:
- the local development documents which are to be development plan documents;
 - the subject matter and geographical area to which each development plan document is to relate;
 - which development plan documents (if any) are to be prepared jointly with one or more other local planning authorities;
 - any matter or area in respect of which the authority have agreed (or propose to agree) to the constitution of a joint committee under section 29;
 - the timetable for the preparation and revision of the development plan documents; and
 - such other matters as are prescribed.
- 9.5 Directions may be given by the Secretary of State and/or the Mayor of London regarding the geographical coverage or subject matter of a LDS, which the Council must comply where given.
- 9.6 The National Planning Practice Guidance on Plan-making has been considered by officers when updating the LDS as explained in section 6.10 of this report.
- 9.7 The Council must resolve that the updated LDS is to have effect and specify the date from which it is to have effect, which is an executive decision that can be exercised by the Cabinet in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

Equality

- 9.8 The Council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:
- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not
 - Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.
- 9.9 The three parts of the duty applies to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty.
- 9.10 Although it is not enforced in legislation as a protected characteristic, Haringey Council treats socioeconomic status as a local protected characteristic.
- 9.11 The LDS will have a positive impact on those groups with protected characteristics by transparently outlining the Council's timetable for producing the New Local Plan to engage a wide variety of people. Detailed equality impact assessment will be carried out during the New Local Plan preparation process.

10. Use of Appendices

Appendix A: Revised Local Development Scheme March 2025

11. Background Papers

Background documents:

Current Local Development Scheme (adopted November 2019)

[Haringey Local Development Scheme 12 November 2019](#)

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Local Development Scheme

March 2025

1. Introduction

About the Local Development Scheme

- 1.1 The Local Development Scheme (LDS) sets out the timetable for the preparation and review of the Council's planning policy documents. The LDS is required to be published by law. The primary legislation relating to LDSs is the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004¹ (as amended) ('the Act'). The secondary legislation relating to LDSs is The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012² (as amended) ('the Regulations'). The national government guidance relating to LDSs is in the National Government Guidance on plan-making (paragraph 003)³
- 1.2 The Council must prepare and maintain a LDS as required by Section 15(1) of the Act and paragraph 003 of the Guidance on plan-making. Having an up-to-date LDS is important to ensure that "local communities and interested parties can keep track of progress" of Local Plans.

What must the LDS include?

- 1.3 The LDS must specify:
- Local development documents which are to be 'development plan documents' (i.e. Local Plan policies);
 - The subject matter and geographical area to which each document is to relate;
 - Which (if any) are to be prepared jointly with one or more other local planning authorities;
 - Any matter or area in respect of which the authority has agreed (or proposes to agree) to the constitution of a joint committee;
 - The timetable for the preparation and revision of the documents; and
 - Such other matters as are prescribed.

When does the LDS take effect?

- 1.4 To bring the LDS into effect, the Council must resolve that the scheme is to have effect and in the resolution specify the date from which the scheme is to have effect⁴. This LDS takes effect from 18 March 2025 and supersedes the previous LDS from November 2019.

When can the LDS be revised?

- 1.5 The Council may revise its LDS "at such time as they consider appropriate"⁵.

Publicising the LDS

- 1.6 The Council must make the following available to the public⁶:
- The up-to-date text of the LDS – provided as section 2 to this document;
 - A copy of any amendments made to the LDS – provided as section 3 to this document; and
 - Up-to-date information showing the state of the Council's compliance (or non-compliance) with the timetable.
- 1.7 The Council is required to publish the LDS on its web site and keep it up to date. The LDS is available on the Council's planning policy web pages⁷.

¹ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/5/contents>

² <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/767/regulation/18/made>

³ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/plan-making>

⁴ Section 15(7) of the Act

⁵ Section 15(8) of the Act

⁶ Section 15(9A) of the Act

⁷ <https://www.haringey.gov.uk/planning-building-control/planning/planning-policy/local-plan/local-development-scheme->

How does the LDS relate to the Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plans?

- 1.8 The preparation or revision of a Local Plan document must be “in accordance with” the LDS. There is no requirement to list Neighbourhood Plans in the LDS. The latest information on Neighbourhood Planning in the Borough is available on the Council’s planning policy web pages⁸.

Monitoring the LDS

- 1.9 The Council publishes an ‘Authority Monitoring Report’ (AMR) on an annual basis to report on the implementation of its planning policies and other matters. The AMRs for each year are available on the Council’s planning policy web pages. The Council’s AMR must contain the title of the Local Plans specified in the Council’s LDS. In relation to those documents it should state:
- The timetable specified in the Council’s LDS for the document’s preparation;
 - The stage the document has reached in its preparation; and
 - If the document’s preparation is behind the LDS timetable, the reasons for this; and
 - Where any Local Plan specified in the Council’s LDS has been adopted or approved within the AMR monitoring period, a statement of that fact and the date of adoption or approval.
- 1.10 The PPG is clear that “Up-to-date and accessible reporting on the LDS in an Authority’s Monitoring Report is an important way in which Local Planning Authorities can keep communities informed of plan making activity”⁹. There is however no requirement to consult on an LDS or to submit to the Mayor of London or Secretary of State.

[lds](#)

⁸ <https://www.haringey.gov.uk/planning-building-control/planning/planning-policy/localism/neighbourhood-planning>

⁹ Paragraph 003 of the NPPG

2. Local Development Scheme

New Local Plan

- 2.1 The Council is preparing an entirely New Local Plan. The plan will be a consolidated plan and fully replace the documents that currently make up the adopted Local Plan which are as follows:
 - Strategic Policies Development Plan Document (2017)
 - Development Management Development Plan Document (2017)
 - Site Allocations Development Plan Document (2017)
 - Tottenham Area Action Plan (2017)
- 2.2 The New Local Plan will be subject to an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) and will also result in the publication of a new Proposals Map. The IIA will include a comprehensive Equalities Impact Assessment to ensure equalities considerations are appropriately considered and addressed. Community engagement on the emerging Plan will be undertaken in accordance with the regulations and the adopted Haringey Statement of Community Involvement.
- 2.3 Once adopted, the New Local Plan will be the key component of our Development Plan, alongside and supported by the London Plan (2021), Neighbourhood Plans, the North London Waste Plan (2022), which sets out the planning framework for waste management in North London, and any National Development Management Policies published by the Government.
- 2.4 The New Local Plan will build directly upon the Council's ambitious new vision for Haringey which was adopted in October 2024. The Council recognises that the vision is just a start and to achieve it the Council has identified six 'Calls to Action'. These are the priorities that our residents, communities and partners have indicated are the foundations of the future that we want to build. It is through securing progress in these fundamental areas that we will create opportunity, a great quality of life and sense of belonging for all. The New Local Plan will set out a comprehensive placemaking framework for Haringey that contributes to the delivery of all six 'Calls to Action'.
- 2.5 The table on the following page outlines the key stages for the preparation of the Council's New Local Plan.

New Local Plan (Borough Wide)						
	Local Plan First Step Engagement	Draft Local Plan	Proposed Submission Local Plan	Submission to the Planning Inspectorate and Examination	Adoption	Key Risks
Regulation	Pre- Regulation 18	Regulation 18	Regulation 19	Regulations 22-25	Regulation 26	<p>Government reforms e.g. further changes to NPPF & publication of National Development Management Policies.</p> <p>Policy approaches and targets in next London Plan.</p> <p>Decisions on major infrastructure projects including Crossrail 2.</p> <p>Joint working with other Councils through the Duty to Cooperate.</p> <p>Staff and resources.</p> <p>Planning Inspectorate resources and timetabling.</p>
Key Dates	Engagement took place from November 2020-February 2021	Consultation to take place from July-September 2025 Pending	May-June 2026 Pending	July-November 2026 Pending	February 2027 Pending	
What happens?	The first opportunity for residents, businesses and other local stakeholders to help shape the new Local Plan from the beginning, identifying key issues and challenges the Borough faces and preferences for various possible options and opportunities.	The Council will consult interested parties and statutory consultees on a full draft of the Plan before the final document is produced.	The Council will publish the Local Plan that it wants to adopt which is followed by a minimum 6-week period when formal representations can be made to it.	The Council will submit the Local Plan to the Secretary of State via the Planning Inspectorate. A Planning Inspector will examine the document to check for compliance with the legislation and tests of soundness. The Council may need to consult on Proposed Modifications	The Council will adopt the Local Plan following consideration of the Inspector's recommendations following the examination	

3. Amendments Made to the 2019 Version of the LDS

3.1 The 2025 LDS supersedes the previous LDS from November 2019. The amendments made to the 2019 version are set out below:

2019 LDS		2025 LDS	
Document	Key dates	Amendments made	Reason
New Local Plan	<p>Consultation on Issues and Options: March-May 2020</p> <p>Consultation on Draft Local Plan: October-December 2020</p> <p>Consultation on Proposed Submission Local Plan: April-May 2017</p> <p>Submission and Examination: July-December 2021</p> <p>Adoption: February 2022</p>	<p>Consultation on Issues and Options: November 2020-February 2021</p> <p>Consultation on Draft Local Plan: July-September 2025</p> <p>Consultation on Proposed Submission Local Plan: May-June 2026</p> <p>Submission and Examination: July-November 2026</p> <p>Adoption: February 2027</p>	<p>The Council has not met the original timetable envisaged to produce a New Local Plan. There are a variety of reasons for this but principally delays owe to resourcing levels within the Planning Policy Team and a long-term vacancy of the Planning Policy Team Manager role. This vacancy has now been filled and a number of actions from an independent Planning Service Peer Challenge have also been fulfilled. A Draft Local Plan containing a full set of draft policies and proposals is now at an advanced stage of preparation ready for consultation in Summer 2025, subject to Cabinet approval in June 2025</p>
Wood Green Area Action Plan	<p>Consultation on Issues and Options: February- March 2016</p> <p>Consultations on Preferred Option Area Action Plan: February-March 2017 and February-March 2018</p> <p>Consultation on Proposed Submission Area Action Plan: February-March 2020</p> <p>Submission and Examination: May-October 2020</p> <p>Adoption: January 2021</p>	<p>The Wood Green Area Action Plan has been removed from the LDS</p>	<p>The Council has not progressed the Wood Green Area Action Plan to adoption. The principal reasons for this include focusing resources on the New Local Plan and the considerable uncertainty around Crossrail 2 due to a delay in the confirmation of the final Crossrail 2 route and the subsequent decision made during the pandemic as part of the Transport for London Funding Agreement to pause further work on the design and development of the scheme. Instead, the policies and proposals for Wood Green will be incorporated into the New Local Plan which will cover the entire borough.</p>
North London Waste Plan	<p>Consultation on Draft Policies: February-March 2016</p>	<p>The North London Waste Plan has been removed from the LDS</p>	<p>The North London Waste Plan was adopted in July 2022. The North London Waste Plan is not due for</p>

	Consultation on Publication Policies: March-April 2019 Submission and Examination: August 2019- February 2020 Adoption: June 2020		review at the current time.
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