

**Committee:** Planning Committee  
**Date:** 7 June 2023  
**Title:** Quality of Major Applications  
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### **Purpose**

1. To report to Planning Committee the applications that have been considered both as Delegated and at Planning Committee which contribute to the data considered by DHLUC as to whether a Local Planning Authority falls within the criteria to be designated.
2. There are four criteria where a Local Planning Authority may be designated - Quality Major; Quality Speed; Quality Non-Major and Speed Non-Major.
3. This report specifically considers the Quality of Major Applications and covers the period 2017 - 2024. The Quality of Major Applications is for decisions made within a two-year period with appeal decisions up to and including the 31 December of the two-year period.
4. Therefore, the periods covered in this report are as follows:
  - *April 2017 - March 2019 (appeal decisions made by 31/12/2019)*
  - *April 2018 - March 2020 (appeal decisions made by 31/12/2020)*
  - *April 2019 - March 2021 (appeal decisions made by 31/12/2021)*
  - *April 2020 - March 2022 (appeal decisions made by 31/12/2022)*
  - *April 2021 – March 2023 (appeal decisions made by 31/12/2023)*
  - *April 2022 – March 2024 (appeal decisions made by 31/12/2024)*
5. The Planning Advisory Service provided each Local Authority with a 'Crystal Ball' (basically a spreadsheet) where the data can be added each month/quarter to monitor whether there is any risk of designation.

6. Below shows the periods from April 2017 within the two-year DLUHC monitoring periods.

	All Major Decisions	Refusals	Appeals	Dismissed	Allowed	Pending	Result
Apr 2017 - Mar 2019	76	29	17	8	7	2*	9.21%
Apr 2018 - Mar 2020	79	46	34	17	13	4**	16.46%
Apr 2019 - Mar 2021	74	38	27	13	13	1***	17.57%
Apr 2020 - Mar 2022	68	31	19	7	8	4****	11.76%
Apr 2021 - Mar 2023	73	29	17	3	5	9	6.85%
Apr 2022 - Mar 2024	39	10	7			7	0.00%

\*Pending decision falls outside of the criteria window of appeal decision made by 31/12/2019.

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#### 7 Cost of appeals per year\*

Year	Legal including Awards of Costs	Consultants
2017 - 2018	£102,660	£33,697
2018 - 2019	£ 21,325	£10,241
2019 - 2020	£182,013	£78,776
2020 - 2021	£144,117	£70,481
2021 - 2022	£129,453	£152,057
2022 - 2023	£306,407.36	£169,873.42
2023 - 2024		

\*Not including the Stansted Airport Inquiry.

Please note that Inquiry/Hearing cost may not be held in the same financial year as the application decision.

#### Recommendation

8. It is recommended that the Committee notes this report for information.

## Impact

<b>Communication/Consultation</b>	<b>Planning Committee</b>
Community Safety	None
Equalities	None
Health & Safety	None
Human Rights/Legal Implications	None
Sustainability	None
Ward-specific impacts	None
Workforce/Workplace	None

## Risk Analysis

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Likelihood</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Mitigating actions</b>
3	3	3	Action Plan & Pathway work

1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact - action may be necessary

3 = Significant risk or impact - action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project