

# Planning Services Performance

## Strategic Planning Committee

21 March 2024

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**Somerset**  
Council

# Planning Services Performance

- This presentation sets out performance information provided on a quarterly basis to the Strategic Planning Committee in line with the Council's constitution
- It includes information on the volume of work received by each of the area teams and the waste and minerals team and reports the information published nationally on a quarterly basis on the meeting of the national targets.
- The data in the presentation, extracted from the Appendix documents, includes the position as at the end of Q3 of 2023/24 and future reports will continue to disaggregate the information as well as providing the overall position.

# Introduction to Planning Services Performance

The presentation will cover the following:

- ✓ Planning applications received by Somerset Council by area from 2020/21 to Q3 of 2023/24;
- ✓ Major, minor and other applications determined within the national targets for Q3 of 2023/24;
- ✓ Pre-application enquiries;
- ✓ Appeal decisions;
- ✓ Enforcement cases on hand and resolved/closed;

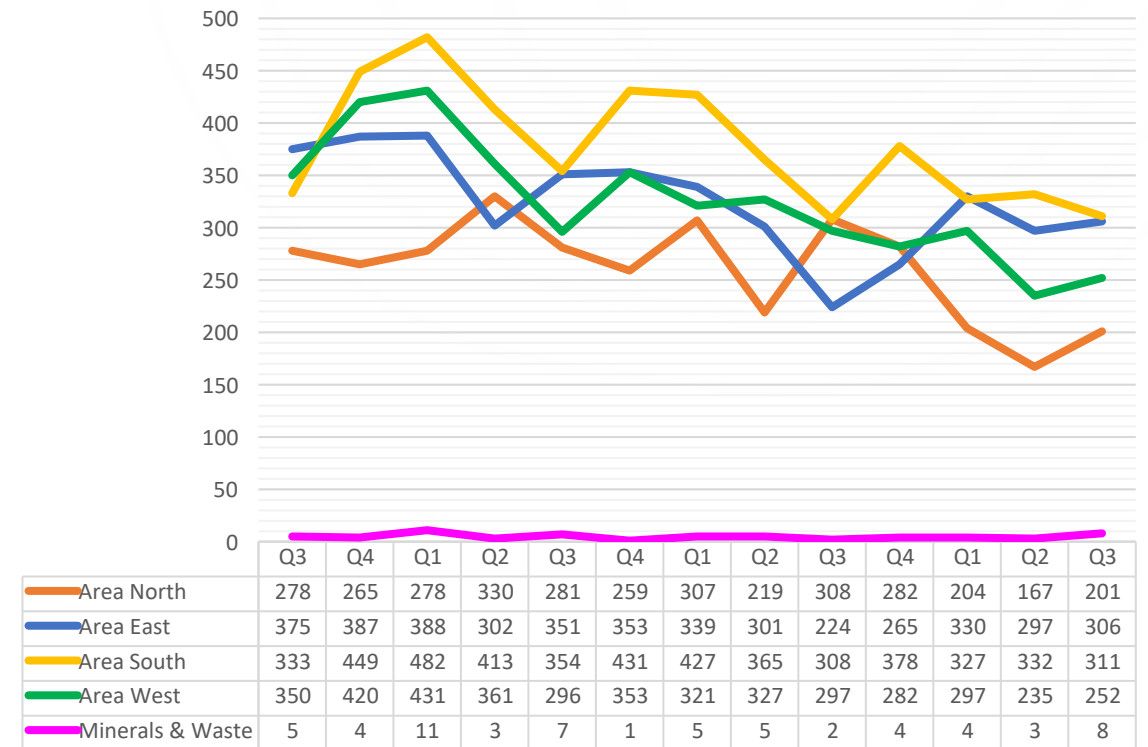
# Number of planning applications received by Somerset Council by area from 2020/21 to Q3 of 2023/24

## All Areas

Table 1: Number of planning applications received by quarter and included in the government returns from 2020/21 to Q3 of 2023/24 by area team

	2020/21					2021/22					2022/23					2023/24				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Area North	245	319	278	265	1107	278	330	281	259	1148	307	219	308	282	1116	204	167	210		581
Area East	302	336	375	387	1400	388	302	351	353	1394	339	301	224	265	1129	330	297	306		933
Area South	401	325	333	449	1508	482	413	354	431	1680	427	365	308	378	1478	327	332	311		970
Area West	331	311	350	420	1412	431	361	296	353	1441	321	327	297	282	1227	297	235	252		784
Minerals & Waste	5	5	5	4	19	11	3	7	1	22	5	5	2	4	16	4	3	8		15

No. of applications received by quarter (all Areas)



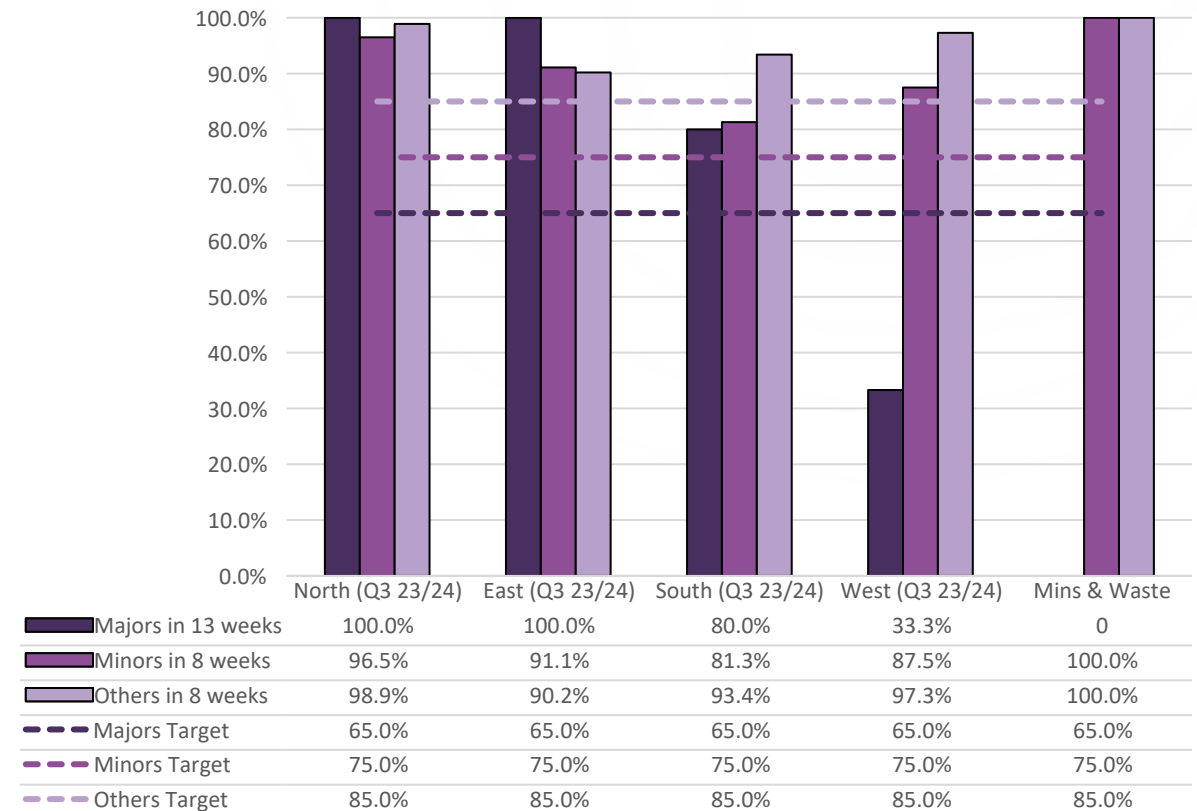
# Major, minor and other applications determined within the national targets for Q3 of 2023/24

## All Areas

The performance of local authorities in determining applications is measured nationally and reported quarterly via statistical returns to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. The Government has set targets for the determination of planning applications as follows:

- Determine 65% of major applications within 13 weeks (or 16 weeks in the case of EIA development);
- Determine 75% of minor applications within eight weeks;
- Determine 85% of other applications within eight weeks

The diagram shows the performance for the last published quarter i.e., Q3 of 2023/24.



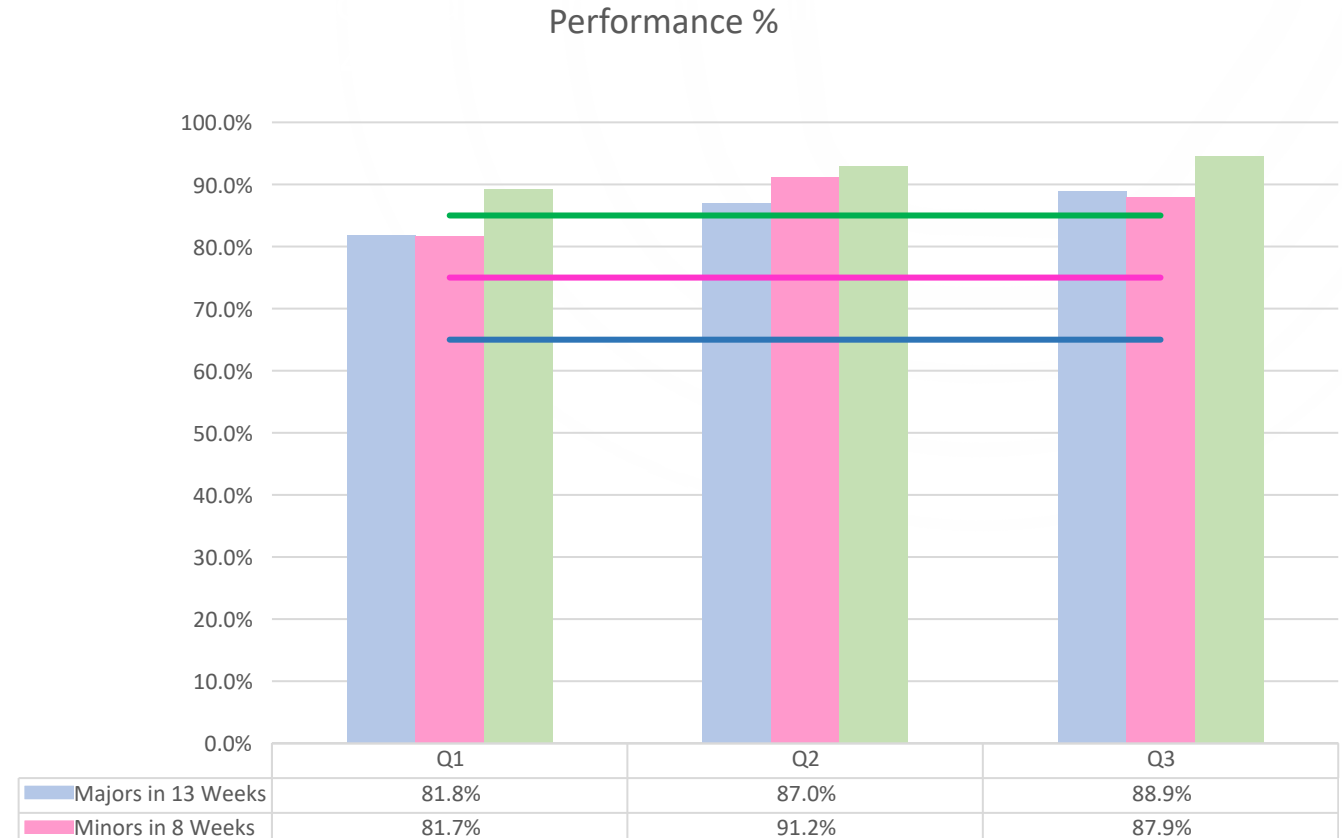
# Unitary Authority Major, minor and other applications determined within the national targets for Q3 of 2023/24

## All Areas

The performance of local authorities in determining applications is measured nationally and reported quarterly via statistical returns to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. The Government has set targets for the determination of planning applications as follows:

- Determine 65% of major applications within 13 weeks (or 16 weeks in the case of EIA development);
- Determine 75% of minor applications within eight weeks;
- Determine 85% of other applications within eight weeks

The diagram shows the performance for the whole Unitary Authority last published quarter i.e., Q3 of 2023/24.



# Two year rolling figures

## Minerals & Waste and All Areas

- The two-year rolling figures for percentage of decisions determined within the national target or agreed time.
- The Somerset wide figure is for Q1 to Q3 of 2023 (previously legacy Authorities to make up 8 quarters).
- The threshold for designation by government is 50% on major applications & 70% of minor or other applications ‘in time’ over this period.

Majors Determined	Two year rolling figure: 24 months to the end of December 2023
England	91.6
Somerset Minerals and Waste (New Data - Quarters 1 to 3 only)	85.7

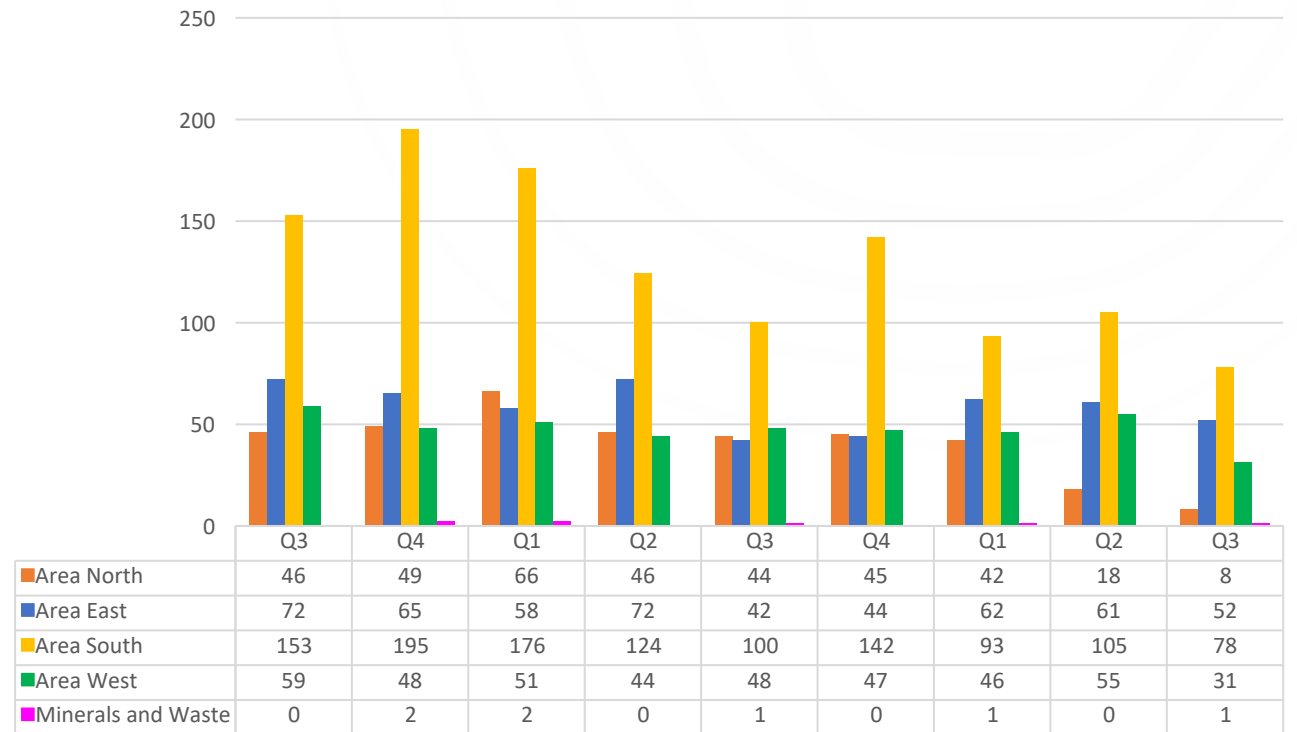
All Areas rolling annual % vs. rolling annual % for England for 24 months to end of December 2023	Major decisions (% within 13 weeks or within agreed time)	Minor decisions (% within 8 weeks or within agreed time)
<b>England</b>	<b>87.7</b>	<b>86.8</b>
Somerset (New Data - Quarters 1 & 2)	85.7	90.3
<i>Area East (Mendip - Historic only to end March 23)</i>	89.5	88.5
<i>Area North (Sedgemoor - Historic only to end March 23)</i>	98.2	96.5
<i>Area West (Somerset West and Taunton - Historic only to end March 23)</i>	76.5	79.3
<i>Area South (South Somerset - Historic only to end March 23)</i>	81.0	87.9

# Pre-applications enquiries

## All Areas

	2021/22			2022/23					2023/24			
	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Total
Area North	46	49	143	66	46	44	45	201	42	18	8	68
Area East	72	65	193	58	72	42	44	216	62	61	52	175
Area South	153	195	519	176	124	100	142	542	93	105	78	276
Area West	59	48	160	51	44	48	47	190	46	55	31	132
Minerals and Waste	0	2	2	2	0	1	0	3	1	0	1	2

No. of pre-application enquiries received and validated by quarter for all Areas



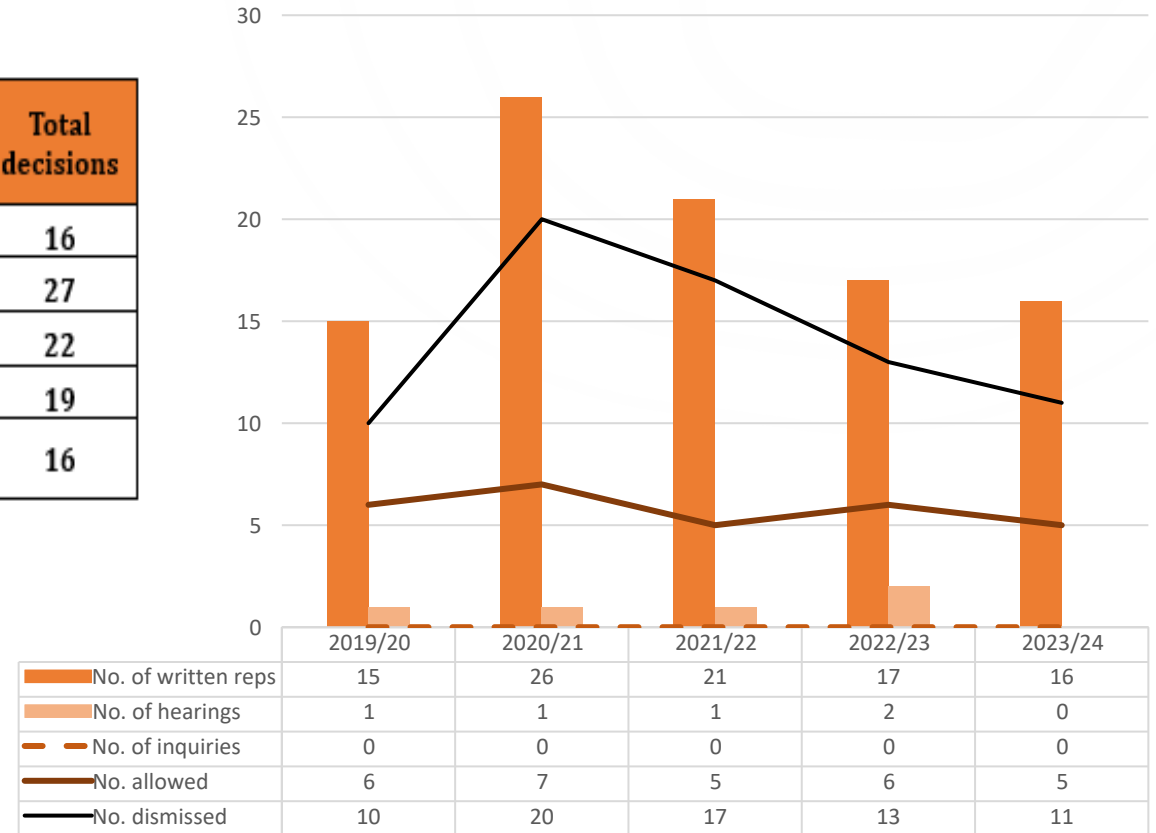


# Appeal decisions

## Area North

	No. of written reps	No. of hearings	No. of inquiries	No. dismissed	% dismissed	No. allowed	% allowed	Total decisions
2019/20	15	1	0	10	62.50%	6	37.50%	<b>16</b>
2020/21	26	1	0	20	74.07%	7	25.93%	<b>27</b>
2021/22	21	1	0	17	77.27%	5	22.73%	<b>22</b>
2022/23	17	2	0	13	68.42%	6	31.58%	<b>19</b>
2023/24 (Q1 - Q3)	16	0	0	11	68.75%	5	31.25%	<b>16</b>

No. of appeal decisions received by quarter and percentage of appeal decisions overturned (Area North)

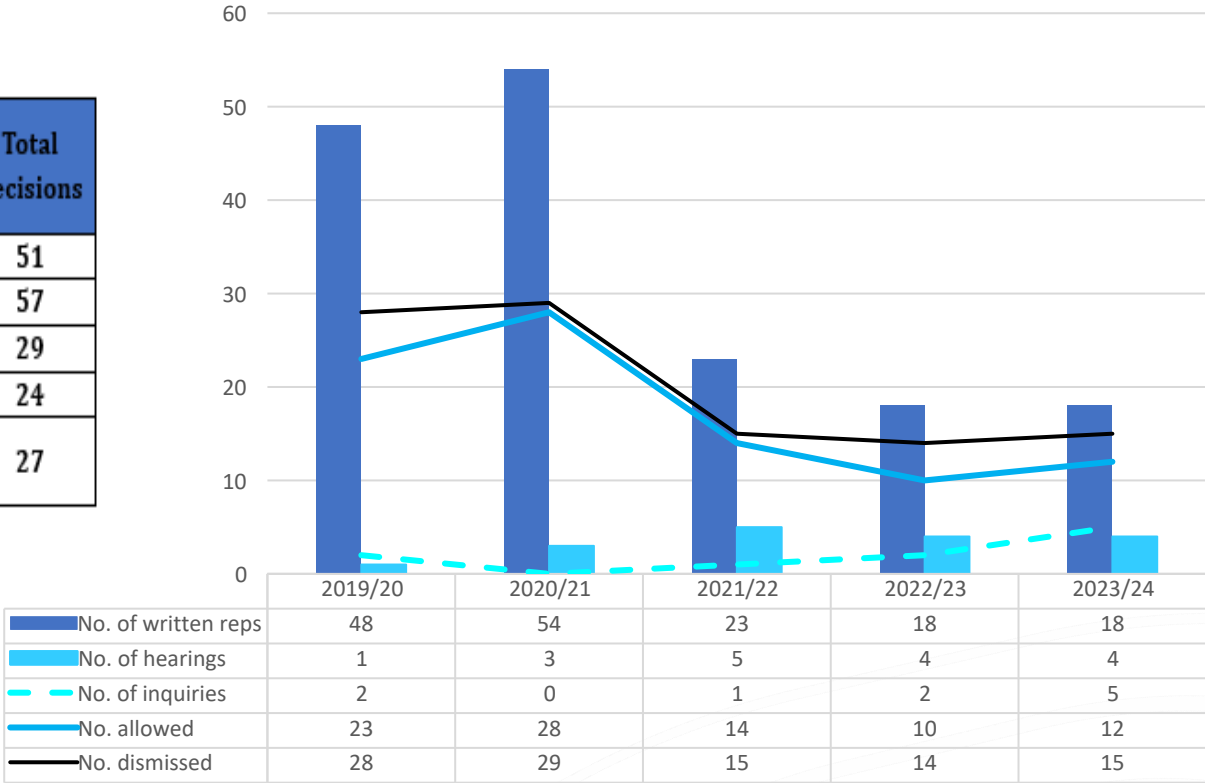


# Appeal decisions

## Area East

	No. of written reps	No. of hearings	No. of inquiries	No. dismissed	% dismissed	No. allowed	% allowed	Total decisions
2019/20	48	1	2	28	54.90%	23	45.10%	51
2020/21	54	3	0	29	50.88%	28	49.12%	57
2021/22	23	5	1	15	51.72%	14	48.28%	29
2022/23	18	4	2	14	58.33%	10	41.66%	24
2023/24 (Q1 - Q3)	18	4	5	15	55.56%	12	44.44%	27

No. of appeal decisions received by quarter and percentage of appeal decisions overturned (Area East)

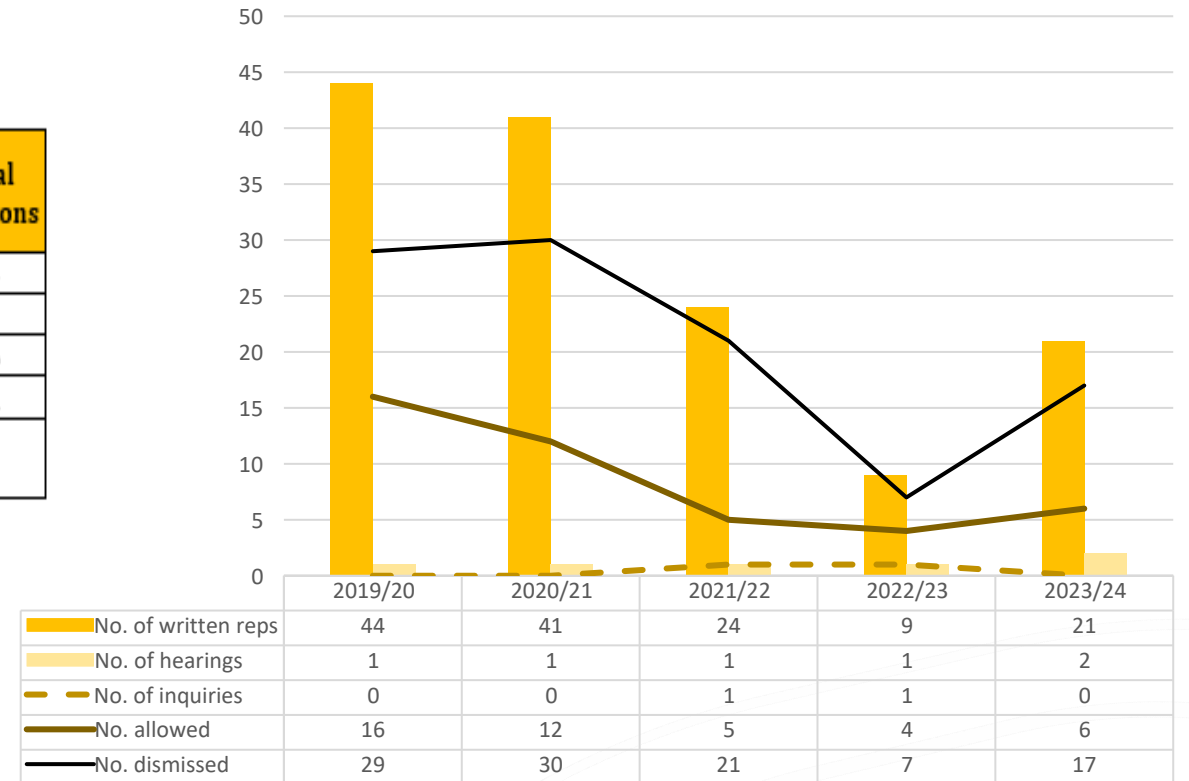


# Appeal decisions

## Area South

	No. of written reps	No. of hearings	No. of inquiries	No. dismissed	% dismissed	No. allowed	% allowed	Total decisions
2019/20	44	1	0	29	64.44%	16	35.56%	45
2020/21	41	1	0	30	71.43%	12	28.57%	42
2021/22	24	1	1	21	80.77%	5	19.23%	26
2022/23	9	1	1	7	63.64%	4	36.36%	11
2023/24 (Q1 - Q3)	21	2	0	17	73.91%	6	26.09%	23

No. of appeal decisions received by quarter and percentage of appeal decisions overturned (Area South)

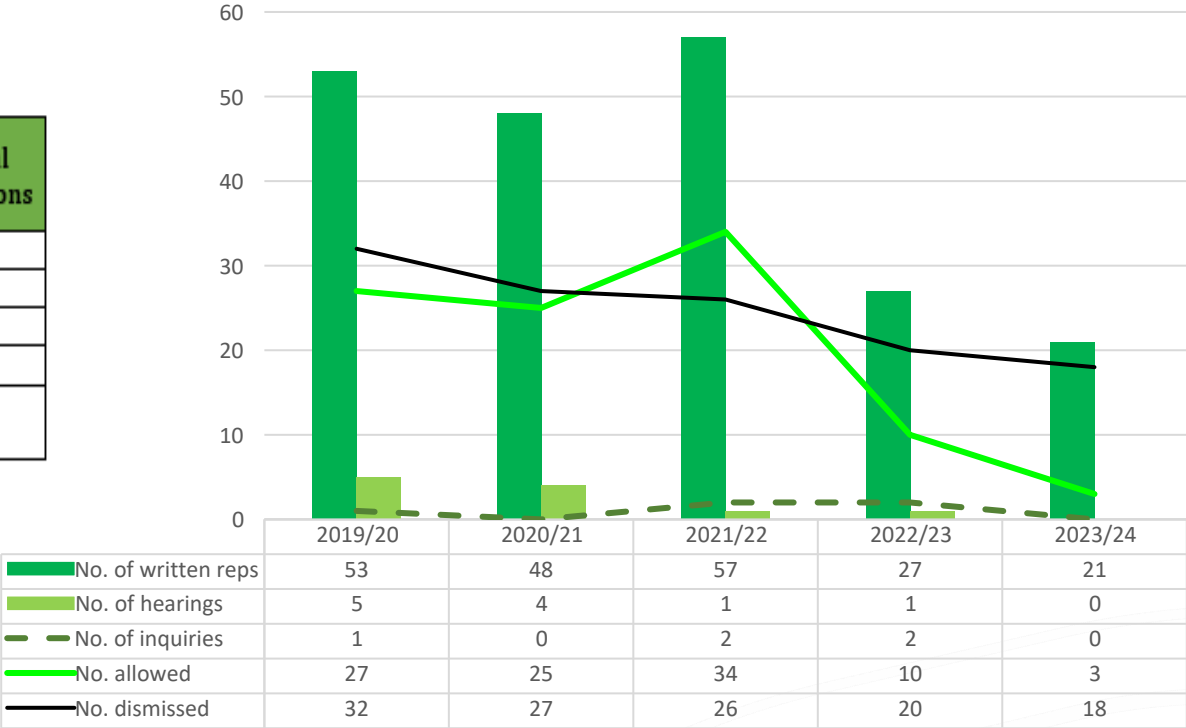


# Appeal decisions

## Area West

	No. of written reps	No. of hearings	No. of inquiries	No. dismissed	% dismissed	No. allowed	% allowed	Total decisions
2019/20	53	5	1	32	54.24%	27	45.76%	59
2020/21	48	4	0	27	51.92%	25	48.08%	52
2021/22	57	1	2	26	43.33%	34	56.67%	60
2022/23	27	1	2	20	66.67%	10	33.33%	30
2023/24 (Q1 - Q3)	21	0	0	18	85.71%	3	14.29%	21

No. of appeal decisions received by quarter and percentage of appeal decisions overturned (Area West)

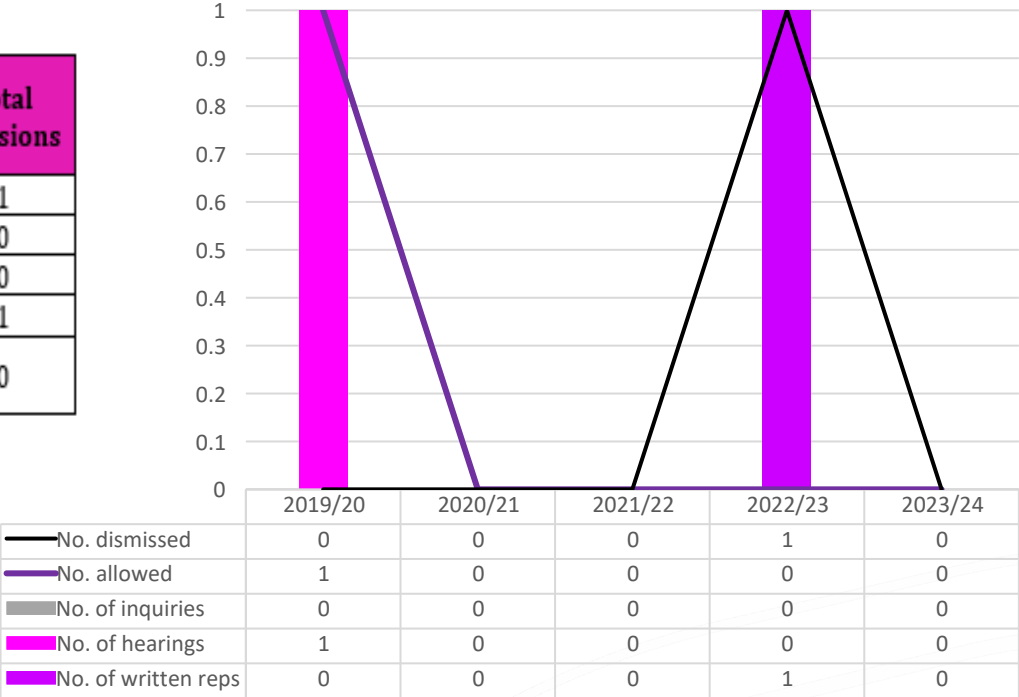


# Appeal decisions

## Minerals & Waste

No. of appeal decisions received by quarter and percentage of appeal decisions overturned (Minerals & Waste)

	No. of written reps	No. of hearings	No. of inquiries	No. dismissed	% dismissed	No. allowed	% allowed	Total Decisions
2019/20	0	1	0	0	0.00%	1	100.00%	1
2020/21	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0
2021/22	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0
2022/23	1	0	0	1	100.00%	0	0.00%	1
2023/24 (Q1 - Q3)	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0

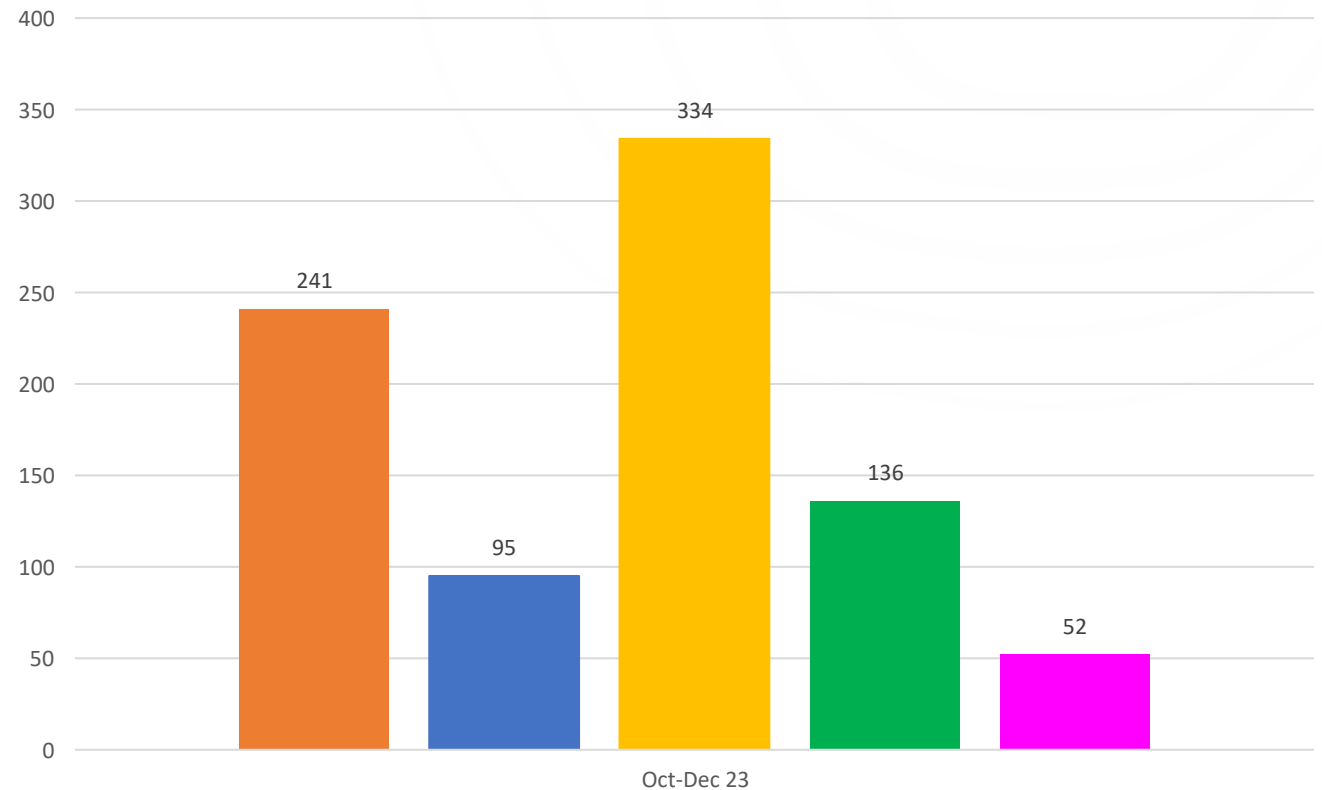


# Enforcement cases as of 30 December 2023

## All Areas

	31 December 2023
Area North	241
Area East	95
Area South	334
Area West	136
Minerals and Waste	52

No. of enforcement investigations on hand at end of the quarter

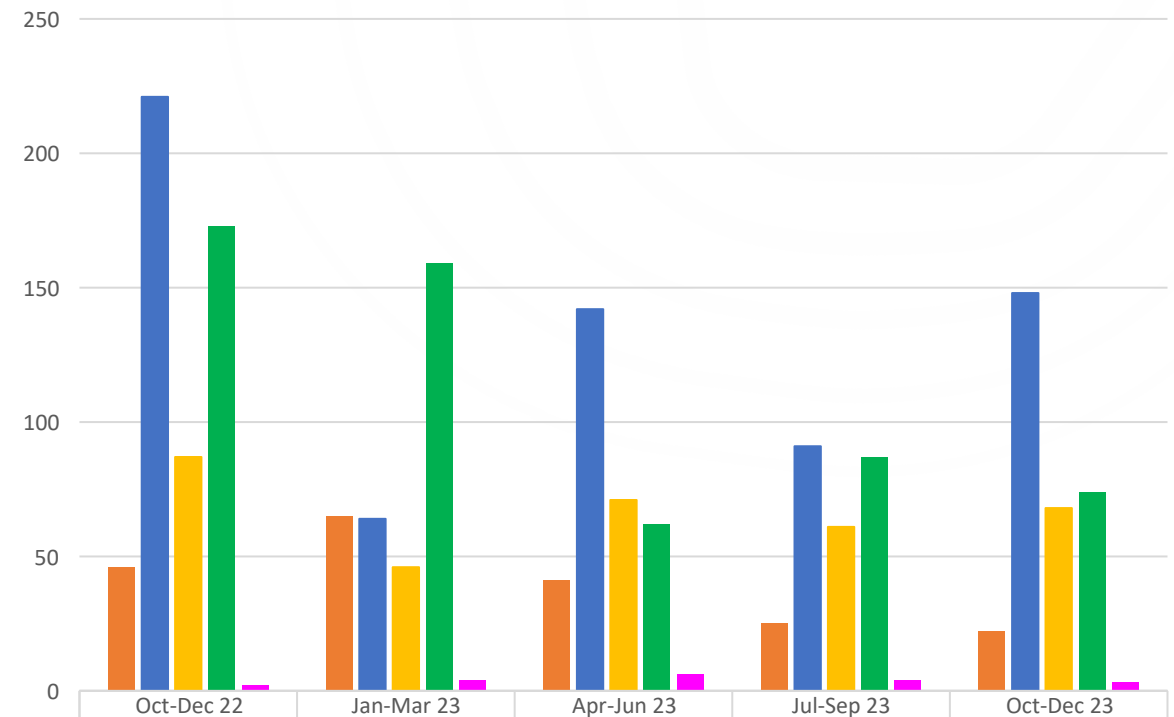


# Enforcement cases resolved/closed

## All Areas

	Oct-Dec 22	Jan-Mar 23	Apr-Jun 23	Jul-Sep 23	Oct-Dec 23
Area North	46	65	41	25	22
Area East	221	64	142	91	148
Area South	87	46	71	61	68
Area West	173	159	62	87	74
Minerals & Waste	2	4	6	4	3

No. of enforcement investigations resolved/closed during each quarter



North (SDC)	46	65	41	25	22
East (MDC)	221	64	142	91	148
South (SSDC)	87	46	71	61	68
West (SWT)	173	159	62	87	74
Minerals and Waste (SCC)	2	4	6	4	3



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