



sustainable thriving achieving








East Dunbartonshire Council

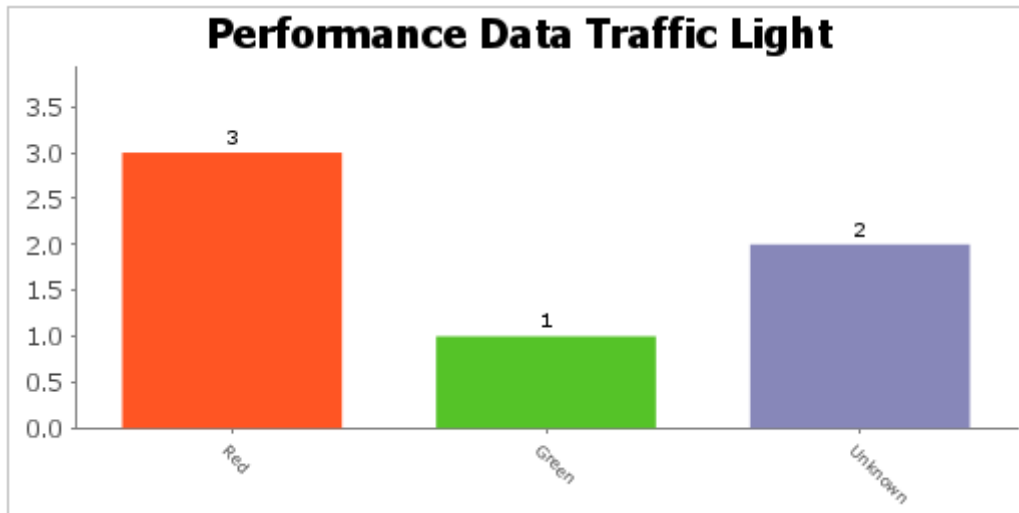
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HOW GOOD IS OUR SERVICE?

LAND PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

April - September 2023

Key to Performance Icons	
Icon	Description
	Indicator is on Target
	Indicator is off target by less than 5%
	Indicator is off target by more than 5%
	Indicator has improved from the same reporting period the previous year
	Indicator is unchanged from the same reporting period the previous year
	Indicator has declined from the same reporting period the previous year
	Data is unavailable to generate a RAG Status. This could be the case for a new indicator where no trend data is available or if indicator data is unavailable for the reporting period



Overview of Progress

Although there are a number of indicators currently not available at the time of reporting, the Land Planning & Development teams have made significant progress on a number of work streams detailed below.

City Deal Team:

- The team continues with a range of work to ensure the delivery of the Council's City Deal project, including the preparation of the different stages of business cases (in-line with Glasgow City Region & HM Greenbook requirements) which are required to unlock the funding from the region.
- Work is ongoing on the Westerhill Masterplan and the Westerhill Development Road for which the design contract is now underway. The project team are currently analysing the various route options in order to select a preferred route to develop further through the OBC process.
- Work has continued on the next stages of the design process for Bishopbriggs Town Centre and Bishopbriggs Park up to RIBA 3. An application has been prepared for the UK Levelling Up Fund, to submit once Round 3 of the fund opens, for which there is currently no date.
- A803 feasibility and options work progressing as part of Outline Business Case development. Preparation for forthcoming consultation on A803 Route Corridor Improvements as part of project develop.

Traffic and Transport

- The Traffic & Transport Team have made good progress with the construction phase of Canniesburn Toll Improvement Project which over this HGIOS reporting period started on site and is estimated for completion in Spring next year. Four Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO) have been promoted to support aspects of the new design.
- Feasibility and design works are progressing on a range of active travel infrastructure projects included in the Local Transport and Active Travel Strategies.

The improvement of Canal Street in Kirkintilloch will see better active travel connections and work on the project is well progressed. Designs have been prepared and work underway to procure a contractor to deliver the changes. This will see an improvement to this section of the John Muir Way and provide better access to the Canal from Eastside, in addition an improved road condition for the businesses which operate along this section of road. The team has delivered a number of path improvements over the summer months including Callieburn Park Path, Bishopbriggs Park Path and Craighdu Path connecting to the Allander Leisure Centre. Further path improvements are programmed in the coming months including Jubilee Path, Bearsden and Westermains Path, Kirkintilloch.

- The team continue to work closely with colleagues in Education to deliver cycle and scooter training in primary and secondary schools across East Dunbartonshire through the iBike Programme. With requests for cycle and scooter parking increasing year on year, the team has installed 15 school cycle shelters in 2023.
- Work is progressing on key functions of the team including: working on a range of Traffic Regulation Orders at various stages of the statutory process, liaising with the network operator and maintenance contractors of the public electric vehicle charging network and continuing to assist in resolving access issues.
- The team has implemented a new tariff charge for Electric Vehicles and continues to examine opportunities for greater local and regional EV charge point provision.

Regeneration & Town Centres Team

- The project to improve Regent Gardens in Kirkintilloch Town Centre has moved to the construction stage. The construction work will take several months and works are expected to complete early 2024. On the Campsie Memorial Hall in Lennoxton - funding has been secured from Regeneration Capital Grant Fund and work continues to develop the project with RIBA 3 design to take place following procurement of a design team. The Lennoxton Main Street Improvement Project is ongoing to develop outline designs. An application to support Lennoxton regeneration projections has been prepared for the UK Levelling Up Fund, to submit once Round 3 of the fund opens, for which there is currently no date.
- The programme management of the Shared Prosperity Fund is ongoing. A range of projects have been identified and are being progressed for implementation over the next 2.5 years.
- The team has been working closely with the Milngavie BID as it moves towards re-ballot in January. Similarly, with the Kirkintilloch BID Steering Group, which over this HGIOS reporting period agreed its Business Plan with the Council and launched the ballot – both key milestones in the process to form a BID. The ballot for the Kirkintilloch BID concludes on 2 November 2023.
- The team, in partnership with a range of Council services and other organisations (including community organisations), delivered a very successful and well attended Kirkintilloch Canal Festival at the end of August.

Sustainability Team

- The evidence and options stage of **Climate Action Plan (CAP)** development work has been completed and Council agreed a corporate net zero target of 2036 for Scope 1 and 2 emissions, and 2045 for all emissions. The Draft CAP is now in preparation and will identify actions for corporate emissions reductions to align with the delivery of these targets and interim 'milestone' targets. This will include pathways to the adoption of zero direct emission heating systems and ultra-low emission vehicles to target complex areas to decarbonise including 'heat and fleet'.

- Work is continuing on the preparation of the related **Local Heat & Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES)**. Following completion of the evidence work, the Draft LHEES will be prepared and will be brought to Council in the first half of 2024 along with the Draft CAP with public consultation to be carried out following Council approval.
- Data for the 2022/23 iteration of the **Carbon Management Plan and Public Bodies Climate Change Duty Report** have been gathered with a report scheduled to go to the Place Neighbourhood and Corporate Assets Committee in November 2023. A key finding from the data and analysis include that the Council's emissions dropped 12% in 2022/23 compared to the financial year of 2021/22 due predominantly to continued decarbonisation of the grid, a significant reduction in the amount of waste going to landfill, gas boiler replacements and a warmer winter reducing demand for gas to heat buildings.
- Consultants were appointed to deliver a **Community Carbon Literacy Training Programme** and preparatory work has now commenced with publicity prior to the start of the delivery phase to be undertaken in November/December 2023. The Sustainability Team is currently working with partners to assess initiatives that could be developed to further support community climate action to be developed alongside the Community Carbon Literacy Programme. Work is being undertaken to ensure that our regular CAP Newsletters add value to this process and that it is coordinated with the establishment of Regional Climate Hubs.

Land Planning Policy

- The Land Planning Policy Team undertook a **six-week consultation on the Development Plan Scheme and Draft Participation Statement** for Local Development Plan 3. The engagement was carried out in May and June and included an online survey, two in person drop-in sessions, one online information session and direct contact with a number of representative groups, key agencies and internal services. Upon conclusion of the consultation period, the team made a number of changes to the Participation Statement taking into account the feedback given by stakeholders on the engagement methods that should be used over the course of preparing LDP3. The finalised version of the Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement was approved at Council on 28 September 2023.
- The Land Planning Policy Team has been contributing to the ongoing **reforms of the planning system** by preparing and coordinating Council responses to the following Scottish Government consultations:
 1. Planning Guidance on Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods
 2. Planning Guidance on Effective Community Engagement in Local Development Planning
 3. Mandatory Training on Planning for Elected Members
- Following the adoption of a **Circular Economy Strategy** earlier this year, the Team has begun work on implementing the actions in the strategy with various partners and internal services. This has particularly focussed on green skills and developing informational resources for local businesses, schools and residents.
- Work is continuing on the development of an **Active Travel Strategy**. This is being overseen by the Transport Working Group and is exploring options for promoting behaviour change, connectivity corridors, active travel neighbourhoods and potential improvements to the walking and wheeling network.

Business Support

- Working with numerous public sector agencies to ensure all support mechanisms to help business and create jobs are fully utilised, including development of new skills & technologies. Cost of doing business continues to be a concern and resources to help and inform businesses continue to be priority with combined support materials available through the Find Business Support website. Start-up enquiries are increasing but business growth and employment are still running at a slower pace than pre pandemic due to economic and market issues.
- The Digital Development Grant has been launched and is already fully subscribed, and applications are now being processed. It will be on hold until such time as any further funding can be obtained.
- The Green Business Support grant now is close to launching and just waiting on final processes for the Extend Plus programme to be confirmed, then launch can go ahead. Extend Plus is being delivered across the City Region to analyse businesses looking for support and their outputs & recommendations will form the basis of works to be carried out supported by the Green Business grant.
- The Business Gateway National Review continues but in the interim services continue to be delivered as usual. National Programme delivery is now being considered as part of the overall review. The New Draft Service Specification will be presented to the Board on 3 November for approval.
- It is likely that Digital Boost funding will no longer be available and Local Authorities will be expected to provide this support with the exception of Webinars which will be picked up by Business Gateway National.
- The team is in the early stages of developing the site enabling and regeneration grant.

Development Applications

- During the reporting period the planning side of the team has determined 376 applications and validated 295 applications. The Building Standards team have received 625 building warrants and approved 722 applications.
- During the reporting period the Enforcement Team opened 55 new cases and closed 19. These new cases were varied in their nature from domestic extensions, to change of use of land and a number of amenity cases.
- The team have been working closely with colleagues in legal services to finalise legal agreements such as the ALDI retail development at Kirkintilloch Gateway Masterplans site. This agreement secures financial contribution of £30,000 towards the delivery of a crossing point across Initiative Road (A806) and associated sustainable transport infrastructure and a financial contribution of £349,000 towards the delivery of the Kirkintilloch Town Centre Strategy.
- Under the new LDP and Supplementary Guidance, Healthcare contributions will be sought and an agreement needs to be entered into with the NHS as to how these contributions are administered. Therefore the Planning team have been working directly with legal services to prepare the agreement. A finalised draft was issued to NHS solicitors in July for signing.
- During this reporting period the Building Standards Team have continued working through the staged Building Warrant applications for Morrisons retail development in Bishopbriggs and the subdivision of the B&Q at Bishopbriggs Retail Park Given the scale of these developments this has been a complex process requiring collaborative working to utilise the relative skills and experience within the team including fire engineering.
- The team have continued to help support the Councils Major Assets team and ensure projection construction deadlines have been met.
- The Building Standards team have been working closely with colleagues in Housing Services and their appointed design team in relation to early agreement on design

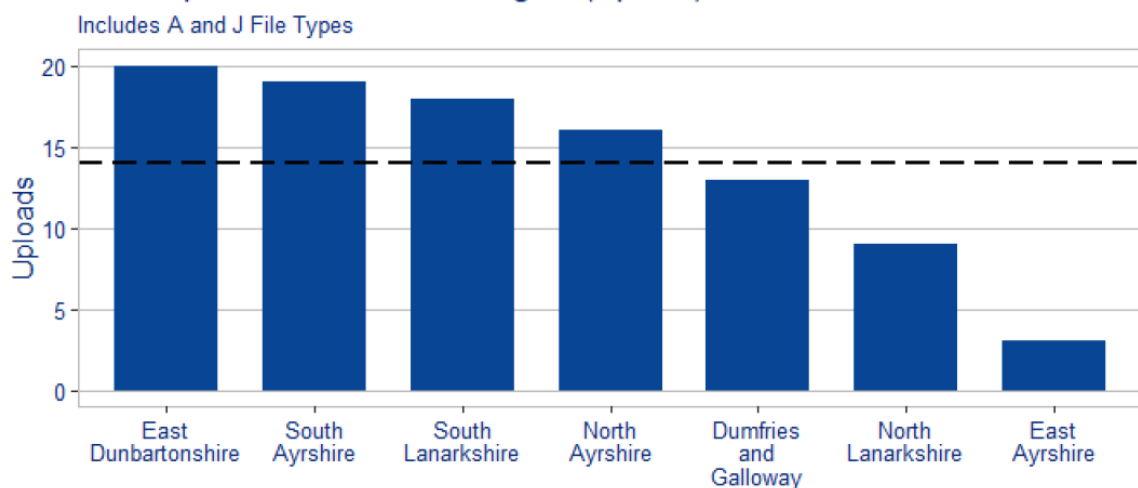
layouts to help give certainty over building warrant approval for future projects. The team have been providing early advice in relation to Townhead and Ellisland affordable housing projects.

- The Development Applications team have been working with BSD in terms of longer term Workforce Strategy and have been having positive discussion with the Council Early Career Programme Lead and have successfully taken on a Modern Apprentice who will gain experience of Building Standards alongside their college course and studies.

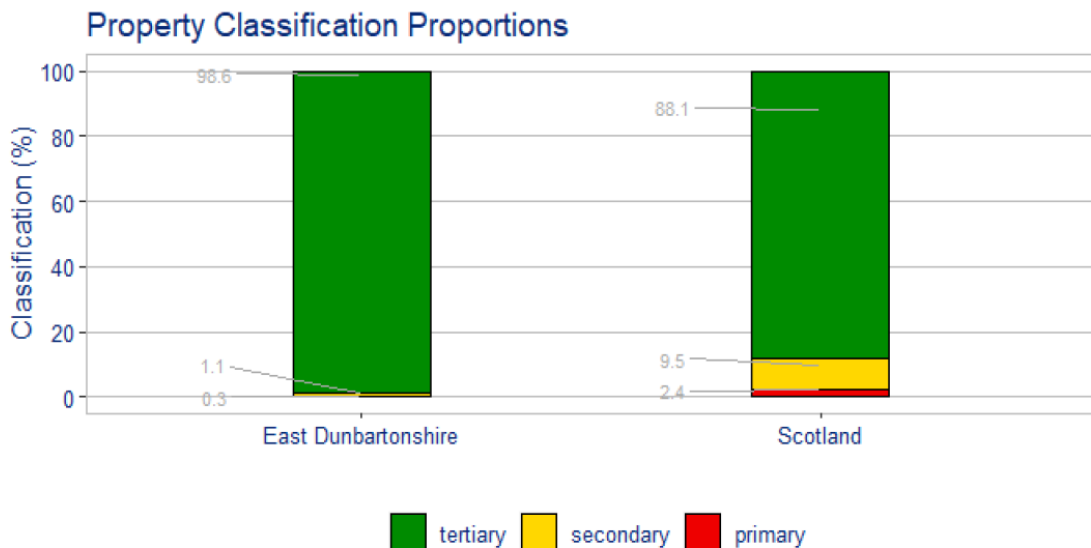
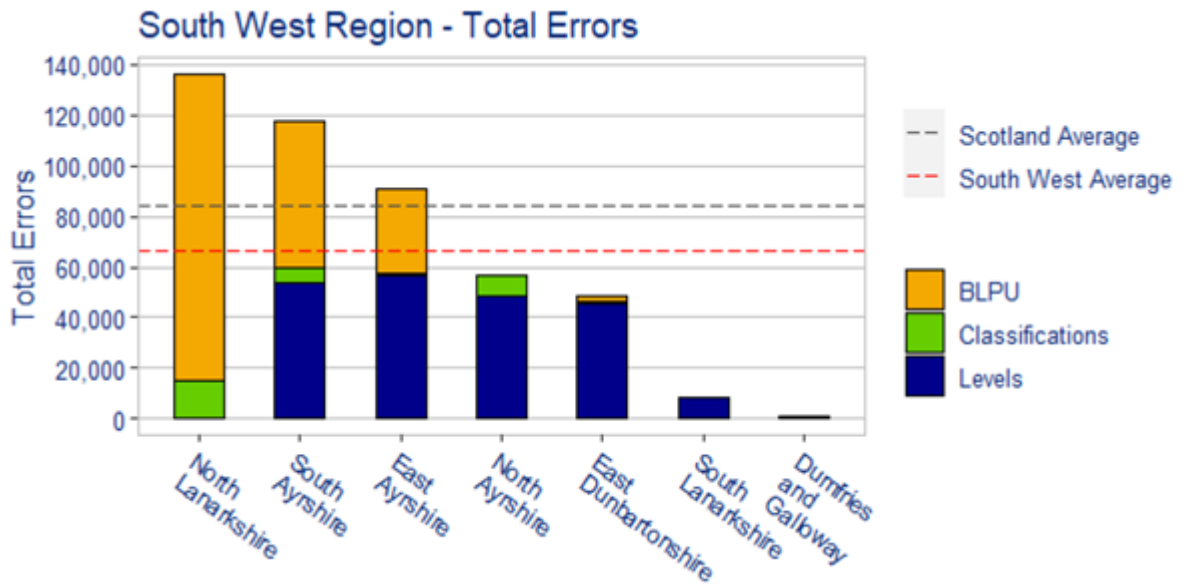
GIS Team

- The team have worked with the Land Planning Policy Team to develop a variety of projects, such as the Active Travel Strategy and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods. This has involved the mapping of safe ATS routes, mapping key services and also creating buffers to gauge the scope of key services in EDC for residents. This mapping exercise has helped to show areas where services may be missing communities within EDC.
- The team have also been working with the Land Planning Policy Team on the early stages of developing the mapping for LDP 3.
- 3D mapping of East Dunbartonshire has been developed, allowing spatial data to be viewed in a more immersive way. This has been utilised on a couple maps at the moment and the team hope to showcase this in more projects moving forward.
- The team have been progressing with Business & Digital Change to upgrade our GIS system, to ensure we stay in support for the coming years.
- Over 250 uniform templates have been edited and created by the team, helping to support services like Planning, Building Standards, Trading Standards, Environmental Health and Planning Enforcement. This has allowed services to utilise Uniform in ways that weren't possible before.
- The team has been working with B&DC to help with the migration of IDOX to a managed service model. This has involved user testing of all 3 uniform environments to ensure they are ready for services.
- The team have named a number of new developments in East Dunbartonshire over the last 6 months, working with developers to number the plots and also Councillors when deciding on the names of the new developments.
- The team has work with Roads and the Improvement Service to clean up errors in both the Corporate Address Gazetteer and also the Local Street Gazetteer. This was a large task as there were over 400 historic errors we needed to fix and agree on between the 3 parties.
- The team have been performing impressively with Improvement Service health checks. These reports examine the quality of our CAG data and the frequency of our uploads. Please see the graphs below to show how we are performing compared to other Councils in the region.

OSG Uploads South West Region (Apr-23)



— South West Average



Key Achievements

- Kirkintilloch Canal Festival that took place over the last weekend in August
- Site start for two key transport and regeneration projects (Canniesburn Toll and Regent Gardens)
- Launch of the local Digital Business Support Grant.
- Appointment of a new Modern Apprentice within Building Standards team.
- Council set a corporate net zero target of 2036 for Scope 1 and 2 emissions and 2045 for all emissions, including area-wide, in addition to agreeing the Evidence and Options Report at the Council meeting on the 28 of September.
- A 12% reduction in the Council's emissions in 2022/23 was achieved relative to 2021/22 levels.
- Approval of the finalised Development Plan Scheme and the Council's work programme for preparing LDP3.

Housing Strategy & Systems

- The new IHMS implementation is well underway. Officers were identified to take this forward and initial training was carried out in May and June.













Functional testing progressing in all modules. Further User Acceptance Testing (UAT) training has been delayed due to additional functional testing being required. It is anticipated that this will be more on track by the end of September.

- New Systems Officers have been assisting with the data cleansing of the current Saffron IT system, to ensure a smooth transition when migrating to the new system, while also working on year-end processing and reporting and day to day processing of the direct debits and the set up of rent accounts.
- Performance Monitoring Officers completed year end performance statistics and compiled data to allow the service to submit the ARC return at the end of May, ensuring all data is accurate for consultant's visit at the start of May. They also continue to update Smartsheet on a monthly basis with new dashboards and sheets for Officers to work from.
- Work is continuing on the Digital Telecare switch and the Project Board continue to ensure the successful transition of analogue telecare to digital telecare throughout the sheltered complexes.
- Allocations Policy Review has been initiated and an action plan has been put together, detailing key milestones in reviewing this intricate policy.
- Refurbishments on 4 properties completed in August and re-let in September at Burnbank sheltered accommodation in Milngavie.
- The CHR review process was carried out. 3200 letters were sent out. As a result approximately 1200 applications were removed from the waiting list.
- The Housing Estates Adviser continues to work closely with the sheltered wardens and concierge to ensure a robust service is provided to tenants and residents.

Areas requiring Improvement

- Working with Business Improvement Districts on town centre interventions to increase footfall.
- Continue to source and secure external funding where available.
- Performance Monitoring/ARC was submitted on 31 May 2023.
- IHMS – User Acceptance Testing progression commenced in June and continues.
- Performance monthly monitoring.
- Consultation on the Allocations Policy is going live on 1 November 2023 and will run until mid-December.

Q2 Performance Indicators

Code	PI Title	Status	Trend	Quarters					Quarterly Target	Latest Note
				Q2 2022/23	Q3 2022/23	Q4 2022/23	Q1 2023/24	Q2 2023/24	Q2 2023/24	
				Value	Value	Value	Value	Value	Target	
LPD-22-LPI-04	Average time taken to deal with a Householder Planning Applications (weeks)			N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	8	This is a new indicator for 22/23. The data will be available in Q3 following Scottish Government verification.
LPD-BIP-03	Average time taken to respond to building warrant applications (working days)			N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	20	Data is reported to the Scottish Government's Building Standard's Division for verification and will be available in Q3.
LPD-BIP-07	Town centre footfall across network			1,306,815	1,938,524	2,510,163	682,995	1,423,946	1,500,000	Improvements seen and a positive trend but not back to pre pandemic levels. Interventions such as the canal festival made a positive contribution.
LPD-BIP-08	Percentage of Town Centre retail vacancies vs total number of town centre retail units			5%	5%	5%	6.6%	7.5%	9%	Positive figure based on national average.
LPD-BIP-09	Amount of funding generated			£50,000.00	£0.00	£691,388.84	£1,915,260.00	£127,600.00	£250,000.00	Q2 target not met but offset by success in Q1
LPD-BIP22-01	% of Planning Applications receiving a letter confirming whether application is valid or invalid within 5 working days			N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	52%	80%	New Indicator for 23/24. Quarter 2 has seen significant periods of downtime on the Uniform system which has created backlogs couple with some annual leave time. Quarter 3 is expected to see improvements in performance.