

Development services

Building warrants - percentage of requests for a building warrant responded to within 15 days

A building warrant is issued when a proposed development complies with the building regulations. The building regulations specify the required standard of construction.

The indicator shows the average time it takes to process a request for a building warrant, once any concerns that the application raises have been dealt with.

Points to bear in mind

A valid application needs to be accompanied by plans and the prescribed fee.

This indicator does not show the time for an applicant to deal with any requests for further information from a council.

Development services

Building warrants - percentage of requests for a building warrant responded to within 15 days

Council	Rank in 04/05		PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse X since 02/03		
	1-32	✓1-8 X 25-32	02/03	03/04	04/05	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Aberdeen City	23		45.5	58.8	48.5	✓		
Aberdeenshire	19		55.6	52.3	53.2			
Angus	5	✓	73.2	78.2	82.7		✓	
Argyll & Bute	18		81.3	83.8	55.3			X
Clackmannanshire	13		18.6	21.1	69.0			✓
Dumfries & Galloway	27	X	37.3	53.9	40.0	✓		
Dundee City	1	✓	93.5	91.8	91.9			
East Ayrshire	31	X	39.4	32.3	25.3			X
East Dunbartonshire	14		50.1	61.1	63.8			✓
East Lothian	15		76.5	76.5	61.0			X
East Renfrewshire	4	✓	74.9	60.8	84.7		✓	
City of Edinburgh	11		72.9	58.2	71.3			
Eilean Siar	12		80.8	81.4	69.1		X	
Falkirk	29	X	<u>19.2</u>	49.4	33.5			
Fife	2	✓	88.4	93.7	89.7			
Glasgow City	6	✓	89.0	72.7	82.3	X		
Highland	26	X	53.6	48.5	40.2			X
Inverclyde	24		40.3	51.7	46.9			✓
Midlothian	21		<u>33.1</u>	43.0	51.7			
Moray	28	X	68.2	37.0	34.7			X
North Ayrshire	25	X	75.5	70.0	40.9			X
North Lanarkshire	3	✓	61.4	72.2	86.2			✓
Perth & Kinross	20		45.0	55.6	52.8			✓
Renfrewshire	8	✓	69.0	63.0	79.0		✓	
Scottish Borders	17		61.8	57.2	55.8	X		
Shetland Islands	30	X	74.2	42.4	30.4			X
South Ayrshire	7	✓	49.4	66.7	79.1			✓
South Lanarkshire	21		78.6	59.0	51.7			X
Stirling	9		67.7	80.6	76.6		✓	
West Dunbartonshire	16		33.4	78.9	58.7			✓
West Lothian	10		73.8	70.9	71.4			
			Scotland					
			65.6	63.5	63.1			

Ranked performance	02/03	03/04	04/05
Highest ranked performance	94	93.7	91.9
Upper quartile	75	74.6	77.8
Median	68	60.8	58.7
Lower quartile	45	52.0	47.7
Lowest ranked performance	19	21.1	25.3

Data features	Symbol	02/03	03/04	04/05
PI not applicable	(-)	0	0	0
No service	(NS)	0	0	0

Count of councils showing significant change since 2002/03	
Improvement	
5-9%	2
10-14%	4
>15%	7
Decline	
5-9%	2
10-14%	1
>15%	8

Unreliable/Unreported Data in 2004/05

Council	02/03	03/04	04/05
Orkney Islands	<u>0.0</u>	9.7	<u>4.6</u>

Reason for Unreliable Determination in 2004/05

Orkney Islands - Incorrect dates were used for parts a and b. For part c, a large number of verbal requests for completion certificates were received for which no dates were recorded. It was not considered possible to produce a reliable average figure.

Notes

An underlined PI measurement indicates unreliable data.

Development services

Building warrants - percentage of requests for a building warrant responded to within 15 days

The following councils were ranked 25th or below in 2002/03:

Clackmannanshire
Dumfries & Galloway
East Ayrshire
Inverclyde
West Dunbartonshire

The following councils did not make any material improvement in their performance by 2004/05:

East Ayrshire

Development services

Building warrants - percentage of building warrants issued (or an application otherwise determined) within 6 days

A building warrant is issued when a proposed development complies with the building regulations. The building regulations specify the required standard of construction.

The indicator shows the average time it takes to issue a building warrant, once any concerns that the application raises have been dealt with.

Points to bear in mind

This indicator does not show the time for issuing the warrant where further information is required in support of the application.

Development services

Building warrants - percentage of building warrants issued (or an application otherwise determined) within 6 days

Council	Rank in 04/05		PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse X since 02/03		
	1-32	✓1-8 X 25-32	02/03	03/04	04/05	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Aberdeen City	23		50.4	52.6	74.1			✓
Aberdeenshire	19		84.6	74.5	78.8	X		
Angus	3	✓	94.4	97.2	95.6			
Argyll & Bute	16		90.9	92.7	82.6	X		
Clackmannanshire	7	✓	77.7	76.4	90.8			✓
Dumfries & Galloway	15		68.5	79.9	82.8			✓
Dundee City	5	✓	95.4	94.7	94.9			
East Ayrshire	11		91.8	86.6	89.3			
East Dunbartonshire	26	X	89.4	86.3	70.2			X
East Lothian	29	X	75.7	72.6	57.5			X
East Renfrewshire	2	✓	98.6	97.3	99.3			
City of Edinburgh	24		68.8	67.6	72.9	✓		
Eilean Siar	22		90.8	84.8	74.2			X
Falkirk	1	✓	<u>100.0</u>	100.0	100.0			
Fife	10		92.9	90.8	90.1			
Glasgow City	9		91.0	85.6	90.4			
Highland	14		89.1	86.0	83.9	X		
Inverclyde	30	X	57.7	59.0	57.0			
Midlothian	13		<u>57.3</u>	74.7	86.7			
Moray	25	X	79.6	71.5	71.5		X	
North Ayrshire	17		93.4	92.3	82.5		X	
North Lanarkshire	12		83.2	86.7	88.2	✓		
Perth & Kinross	31	X	36.9	48.4	52.4			✓
Renfrewshire	6	✓	94.0	73.0	93.0			
Scottish Borders	21		87.8	84.9	76.0		X	
Shetland Islands	27	X	92.3	87.8	67.9			X
South Ayrshire	7	✓	70.4	88.2	90.8			✓
South Lanarkshire	3	✓	95.5	96.1	95.6			
Stirling	20		81.5	86.7	76.1	X		
West Dunbartonshire	18		63.4	89.9	79.1			✓
West Lothian	28	X	91.2	80.2	62.2			X
			Scotland					
			80.4	80.9	82.1			

Ranked performance	02/03	03/04	04/05
Highest ranked performance	100	100.0	100.0
Upper quartile	93	90.4	90.6
Median	89	86.0	82.6
Lower quartile	73	74.6	73.5
Lowest ranked performance	37	48.4	52.4

Data features	Symbol	02/03	03/04	04/05
PI not applicable	(-)	0	0	0
No service	(NS)	0	0	0

Count of councils showing significant change since 2002/03	
Improvement	
5-9%	2
10-14%	-
>15%	6
Decline	
5-9%	4
10-14%	3
>15%	5

Unreliable/Unreported Data in 2004/05

Council	02/03	03/04	04/05
Orkney Islands	<u>0.0</u>	23.5	<u>26.4</u>

Reason for Unreliable Determination in 2004/05

Orkney Islands - Incorrect dates were used for parts a and b. For part c, a large number of verbal requests for completion certificates were received for which no dates were recorded. It was not considered possible to produce a reliable average figure.

Notes

An underlined PI measurement indicates unreliable data.

Development services

Building warrants - percentage of building warrants issued (or an application otherwise determined) within 6 days

The following councils were ranked 25th or below in 2002/03:

Aberdeen City
Dumfries & Galloway
Inverclyde
Perth & Kinross
West Dunbartonshire

The following councils did not make any material improvement in their performance by 2004/05:

Inverclyde

Development services

Completion certificates - average time (days) taken to respond to a request for a completion certificate

The time to respond to a request for a certificate of completion or an authorisation of temporary occupation/use is the period from receipt of a formal application together with a duly completed Compliance Certificate for Electrical Installation if appropriate, to the date of an inspection being carried out to determine whether or not a completion certificate can be issued.

Development services

Completion certificates - average time (days) taken to respond to a request for a completion certificate

Council	Rank in 04/05		PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse X since 02/03		
	1-32	✓1-8 X 25-32	02/03	03/04	04/05	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Aberdeen City	27	X	6	7	8			X
Aberdeenshire	21		4	5	6			X
Angus	13		3	3	4			X
Argyll & Bute	4	✓	2	3	3			X
Clackmannanshire	4	✓	5	4	3			✓
Dumfries & Galloway	13		5	5	4			✓
Dundee City	4	✓	3	2	3			
East Ayrshire	18		3	4	5			X
East Dunbartonshire	27	X	7	6	8		X	
East Lothian	29	X	4	7	9			X
East Renfrewshire	1	✓	3	2	2			✓
City of Edinburgh	31	X	2	13	24			X
Eilean Siar	24		9	7	7			✓
Falkirk	13		<u>4</u>	4	4			
Fife	4	✓	3	3	3			
Glasgow City	4	✓	2	2	3			X
Highland	24		8	10	7		✓	
Inverclyde	4	✓	3	3	3			
Midlothian	13		<u>5</u>	4	4			
Moray	30	X	5	10	10			X
North Ayrshire	18		6	6	5			✓
North Lanarkshire	1	✓	2	2	2			
Perth & Kinross	18		8	9	5			✓
Renfrewshire	1	✓	2	2	2			
Scottish Borders	4	✓	4	3	3			✓
Shetland Islands	24		4	5	7			X
South Ayrshire	13		5	4	4			✓
South Lanarkshire	4	✓	3	3	3			
Stirling	21		4	5	6			X
West Dunbartonshire	21		3	4	6			X
West Lothian	4	✓	3	3	3			
			Scotland					
			4	5	5			

Ranked performance	02/03	03/04	04/05
Highest ranked performance	2	2	2
Upper quartile	3	3	3
Median	4	4	4
Lower quartile	5	6	7
Lowest ranked performance	9	13	24

Data features	Symbol	02/03	03/04	04/05
PI not applicable	(-)	0	0	0
No service	(NS)	0	0	0

Count of councils showing significant change since 2002/03	
Improvement	
5-9%	-
10-14%	1
>15%	8
Decline	
5-9%	-
10-14%	1
>15%	12

Unreliable/Unreported Data in 2004/05

Council	02/03	03/04	04/05
Orkney Islands	<u>5</u>	6	<u>3</u>

Notes

An underlined PI measurement indicates unreliable data.

Development services

Completion certificates - average time (days) taken to respond to a request for a completion certificate

The following councils were ranked 25th or below in 2002/03:

East Dunbartonshire
Eilean Siar
Highland
Perth & Kinross

The following councils did not make any material improvement in their performance by 2004/05:

East Dunbartonshire

Development services

Completion certificates - percentage of completion certificates issued (or an application otherwise determined) within 3 days

A completion certificate is issued when the development has been completed in accordance with the building warrant. The completion certificate authorises occupation of the development.

Points to bear in mind

The indicator shows the time it takes to respond to a request for a completion certificate once the council is satisfied that the building work has been completed in accordance with the warrant.

Development services

Completion certificates - percentage of completion certificates issued (or an application otherwise determined) within 3 days

Council	Rank in 04/05		PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse X since 02/03		
	1-32	✓1-8 X 25-32	02/03	03/04	04/05	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Aberdeen City	18		91.0	84.5	83.9	X		
Aberdeenshire	28	X	75.0	65.7	73.0			
Angus	14		81.8	89.8	89.3	✓		
Argyll & Bute	21		85.1	90.2	80.6	X		
Clackmannanshire	1	✓	97.4	96.8	98.6			
Dumfries & Galloway	22		71.3	79.5	80.4		✓	
Dundee City	5	✓	98.6	94.9	94.3			
East Ayrshire	27	X	77.8	79.6	73.2	X		
East Dunbartonshire	25	X	66.5	62.1	74.7		✓	
East Lothian	2	✓	88.8	89.9	98.0		✓	
East Renfrewshire	12		78.2	76.5	91.1			✓
City of Edinburgh	16		81.3	76.2	85.0			
Eilean Siar	9		97.8	98.2	92.2	X		
Falkirk	31	X	<u>69.5</u>	39.7	39.7			
Fife	3	✓	94.0	93.8	96.1			
Glasgow City	24		78.0	71.5	75.0			
Highland	11		88.7	82.7	91.9			
Inverclyde	15		81.9	88.7	88.6	✓		
Midlothian	6	✓	<u>34.0</u>	81.2	94.2			
Moray	7	✓	98.7	96.9	94.0			
North Ayrshire	17		97.4	98.1	84.5		X	
North Lanarkshire	19		60.4	73.9	82.9			✓
Perth & Kinross	30	X	48.2	33.3	54.9		✓	
Renfrewshire	10		93.0	82.0	92.0			
Scottish Borders	13		93.9	93.6	90.2			
Shetland Islands	8	✓	92.7	98.7	92.8			
South Ayrshire	26	X	61.4	64.7	74.5			✓
South Lanarkshire	4	✓	93.1	92.3	95.0			
Stirling	23		75.0	78.7	80.0	✓		
West Dunbartonshire	20		67.9	90.0	81.9			✓
West Lothian	29	X	89.3	71.3	67.1			X
			Scotland					
			82.3	78.2	82.0			

Ranked performance	02/03	03/04	04/05
Highest ranked performance	99	98.7	98.6
Upper quartile	93	93.0	92.5
Median	82	82.7	85.0
Lower quartile	73	75.1	77.5
Lowest ranked performance	34	33.3	39.7

Data features	Symbol	02/03	03/04	04/05
PI not applicable	(-)	0	0	0
No service	(NS)	0	0	0

Count of councils showing significant change since 2002/03	
Improvement	
5-9%	3
10-14%	4
>15%	4
Decline	
5-9%	4
10-14%	1
>15%	1

Unreliable/Unreported Data in 2004/05

Council	02/03	03/04	04/05
Orkney Islands	<u>0.0</u>	28.3	<u>16.1</u>

Notes

An underlined PI measurement indicates unreliable data.

Development services

Completion certificates - percentage of completion certificates issued (or an application otherwise determined) within 3 days

The following councils were ranked 25th or below in 2002/03:

East Dunbartonshire
North Lanarkshire
Perth & Kinross
South Ayrshire
West Dunbartonshire

The following councils did not make any material improvement in their performance by 2004/05:

None

Development services

Processing time – the percentage of householder applications dealt with within two months

The indicator provides information on how long it takes each council to deal with planning applications by householders seeking approval to build extensions to their homes, or to make other alterations to their properties that need permission.

In dealing with planning applications, councils:

- take a number of steps to consult on and assess the application
- decide whether to approve the application
- notify the applicant of the decision.

People have to notify their neighbours that they have submitted an application and councils are usually required to carry out only limited consultations before a decision is reached. Many of the applications are straightforward and result in permission being granted. This indicator does not deal with applications by builders and developers.

Points to bear in mind

In its revised National Planning Policy Guideline 1 (November 2000), The Scottish Executive identified a series of targets for councils in dealing with planning applications. The target levels established include:

Type of Application	2 months	3 months
Householder applications	90%	95%

The time taken to deal with an application will be affected by:

- the extent to which councillors delegate responsibility for approving applications to staff (greater delegation will generally allow applications to be processed more quickly)
- whether there are any objections to the application (eg from neighbouring property owners)
- the proportion of cases where an applicant needs to submit amended plans before the planning officer feels able to recommend approval.

Some cases, particularly those in conservation areas or affecting listed buildings, may take longer to deal with because of the need for additional advertising and consultation. The proportion of such applications varies between councils.

Development services

Processing time – the percentage of householder applications dealt with within two months

Council	Rank in 04/05		PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse ✗ since 02/03		
	1-32	✓1-8 ✗ 25-32	02/03	03/04	04/05	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Aberdeen City	15		75.4	87.3	83.4		✓	
Aberdeenshire	13		86.6	77.6	84.6			
Angus	3	✓	84.6	85.8	90.7	✓		
Argyll & Bute	6	✓	88.9	87.7	88.9			
Clackmannanshire	1	✓	93.3	95.0	96.4			
Dumfries & Galloway	18		83.1	75.1	78.8	✗		
Dundee City	32	✗	82.3	81.2	17.5			✗
East Ayrshire	22		71.0	72.9	75.6	✓		
East Dunbartonshire	23		79.4	82.2	74.8	✗		
East Lothian	9		89.2	88.4	86.6			
East Renfrewshire	16		85.0	85.4	82.6			
City of Edinburgh	24		74.9	66.9	74.0			
Eilean Siar	29	✗	90.2	<u>86.6</u>	66.4			✗
Falkirk	20		88.4	91.9	76.6		✗	
Fife	17		87.6	85.7	79.1	✗		
Glasgow City	28	✗	82.7	55.3	66.7			✗
Highland	21		83.1	84.8	76.3	✗		
Inverclyde	10		93.2	90.8	85.8	✗		
Midlothian	11		85.5	79.0	85.5			
Moray	5	✓	92.0	92.5	89.2			
North Ayrshire	8	✓	82.3	81.6	87.2	✓		
North Lanarkshire	7	✓	78.6	83.1	87.3		✓	
Orkney Islands	31	✗	78.0	<u>82.3</u>	55.2			✗
Perth & Kinross	30	✗	82.6	74.3	56.3			✗
Renfrewshire	26	✗	79.7	75.2	70.0		✗	
Scottish Borders	27	✗	82.0	78.7	69.2			✗
Shetland Islands	19		88.6	88.7	77.4		✗	
South Ayrshire	25	✗	82.5	81.2	72.3		✗	
South Lanarkshire	14		91.1	87.9	84.4	✗		
Stirling	4	✓	87.2	89.3	90.2			
West Dunbartonshire	12		77.2	81.3	84.8	✓		
West Lothian	2	✓	95.6	90.4	94.1			
			Scotland					
			83.4	80.6	78.3			

Ranked performance	02/03	03/04	04/05
Highest ranked performance	95.6	95.0	96.4
Upper quartile	88.7	88.0	86.8
Median	83.9	84.0	80.9
Lower quartile	81.4	78.9	73.6
Lowest ranked performance	71.0	55.3	17.5

Data features	Symbol	02/03	03/04	04/05
PI not applicable	(-)	0	0	0
No service	(NS)	0	0	0

Count of councils showing significant change since 2002/03	
Improvement	
5-9%	4
10-14%	2
>15%	-
Decline	
5-9%	6
10-14%	4
>15%	6

Notes

An underlined PI measurement indicates unreliable data.

Development services

Processing time – the percentage of householder applications dealt with within two months

The following councils were ranked 25th or below in 2002/03:

Aberdeen City
East Ayrshire
East Dunbartonshire
City of Edinburgh
North Lanarkshire
Orkney Islands
Renfrewshire
West Dunbartonshire

The following councils did not make any material improvement in their performance by 2004/05:

East Dunbartonshire
City of Edinburgh
Orkney Islands
Renfrewshire

Development services

Processing time – the percentage of all applications dealt with within two months

The indicator provides information on how long it takes each council to deal with all planning applications including those from householders, builders and developers..

In dealing with planning applications, councils:

- take a number of steps to consult on and assess the application
- decide whether to approve the application
- notify the applicant of the decision.

Points to bear in mind

In its revised National Planning Policy Guideline 1 (November 2000), The Scottish Executive identified a series of targets for councils in dealing with planning applications. The target levels established include:

Type of Application	2 months	3 months
All applications	80%	85%

The time taken to deal with an application will be affected by:

- the extent to which councillors delegate responsibility for approving applications to staff (greater delegation will generally allow applications to be processed more quickly)
- whether there are any objections to the application (eg from neighbouring property owners)
- the proportion of cases where an applicant needs to submit amended plans before the planning officer feels able to recommend approval.

Some cases, particularly those in conservation areas or affecting listed buildings, may take longer to deal with because of the need for additional advertising and consultation. The proportion of such applications varies between councils.

Information provided by the Scottish Executive Planning Services Audit Unit indicates that in 2004/2005 the proportion of listed building and conservation area determinations expressed as a proportion of all determinations (ie in relation to non-householder as well as householder applications) was 10% or higher in City of Edinburgh, East Lothian, Glasgow City and Stirling.

Development services

Processing time – the percentage of all applications dealt with within two months

Council	Rank in 04/05		PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse ✗ since 02/03		
	1-32	✓1-8 ✗ 25-32	02/03	03/04	04/05	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Aberdeen City	5	✓	65.4	75.0	73.2		✓	
Aberdeenshire	15		70.0	58.8	65.5	✗		
Angus	10		70.9	68.6	69.1			
Argyll & Bute	16		67.4	66.6	64.4			
Clackmannanshire	2	✓	84.4	84.6	82.5			
Dumfries & Galloway	26	✗	62.7	57.0	55.9		✗	
Dundee City	32	✗	61.1	61.4	13.8			✗
East Ayrshire	24		55.8	55.3	57.7			
East Dunbartonshire	9		69.5	77.0	70.4			
East Lothian	7	✓	76.2	72.9	72.3	✗		
East Renfrewshire	3	✓	77.7	78.2	77.1			
City of Edinburgh	20		62.5	54.7	61.8			
Eilean Siar	14		77.2	<u>73.4</u>	67.4		✗	
Falkirk	25	✗	66.4	73.4	57.1		✗	
Fife	17		77.2	71.6	64.3			✗
Glasgow City	27	✗	56.3	44.3	54.8			
Highland	28	✗	60.1	59.1	54.4	✗		
Inverclyde	4	✓	78.1	73.2	74.3			
Midlothian	11		71.3	66.5	68.6			
Moray	21		75.0	73.9	60.6			✗
North Ayrshire	13		59.7	64.6	68.1		✓	
North Lanarkshire	8	✓	58.8	67.9	72.1			✓
Orkney Islands	30	✗	70.6	<u>75.4</u>	48.0			✗
Perth & Kinross	31	✗	65.9	59.8	45.9			✗
Renfrewshire	19		65.5	63.5	63.2			
Scottish Borders	29	✗	63.6	62.5	53.4			✗
Shetland Islands	23		65.8	69.5	58.3		✗	
South Ayrshire	22		65.4	66.7	59.6	✗		
South Lanarkshire	12		72.8	71.7	68.4	✗		
Stirling	6	✓	68.1	71.2	72.5	✓		
West Dunbartonshire	18		64.7	71.0	63.5			
West Lothian	1	✓	80.6	78.5	85.4	✓		
			Scotland					
			66.9	64.2	62.2			

Ranked performance	02/03	03/04	04/05
Highest ranked performance	84.4	84.6	85.4
Upper quartile	73.4	73.4	70.8
Median	66.9	69.1	64.4
Lower quartile	63.4	62.2	57.6
Lowest ranked performance	55.8	44.3	13.8

Data features	Symbol	02/03	03/04	04/05
PI not applicable	(-)	0	0	0
No service	(NS)	0	0	0

Count of councils showing significant change since 2002/03	
Improvement	
5-9%	2
10-14%	2
>15%	1
Decline	
5-9%	5
10-14%	4
>15%	6

Notes

An underlined PI measurement indicates unreliable data.

Development services

Processing time – the percentage of all applications dealt with within two months

The following councils were ranked 25th or below in 2002/03:

Dumfries & Galloway
Dundee City
East Ayrshire
City of Edinburgh
Glasgow City
Highland
North Ayrshire
North Lanarkshire

The following councils did not make any material improvement in their performance by 2004/05:

Dumfries & Galloway
Dundee City
East Ayrshire
City of Edinburgh
Glasgow City
Highland