

Performance update – August 2022

News story

On a monthly basis, we publish the latest official statistics on appeals performance, which represent the highest volume (in terms of number of cases) of the work of the Planning Inspectorate.



Alongside this, we update the [appeals handling times data](#) to give customers the latest information on the average time it takes to receive a decision.

In summary:

- The number of open cases rose to 13,988 by the end of July. We are currently receiving more cases than we can decide, though we issued 1,426 decisions in July which was 232 more than the previous month. We continue to focus on casework with the most community interest and those key to supporting the nation's economic recovery, such as national infrastructure applications, local plan examinations and appeals needing a hearing or inquiry. We encourage appellants to work closely with their local planning authorities and other interested parties to resolve issues locally and help to reduce pressure on the appeals system.
- [New Ministerial performance Measures](#) for The Planning Inspectorate were announced earlier this year, with an expectation we reduce average decision times. From April we implemented a faster process for planning appeals requiring a hearing and the first cases heard in the improved process are now being issued within the 24-26 weeks we are aiming for. Decision times for appeals by inquiry remain positive with a median time of 31 weeks in July 2022. We will continue to work to speed up decision times whilst maintaining the standards of our decisions.
- Since the new measures were adopted, we have been working to find better ways of presenting our performance data to make it clearer and more user-friendly. This month, alongside our usual [performance statistics format, we have published an experimental data set](#), focusing on a small number of the new Ministerial measures. Any feedback on the presentation is very welcome and should be sent to

statistics@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

- They show that the number of appeals submitted that were valid on first submission between April and June 2022 (61.2%) was a slight improvement on the previous three months (59.8%), but we have ambitions to increase this significantly. We are currently working with local planning authorities on a project to improve our digital services, including making it clearer for appellants how to use the appeal service. This should reduce the number of incomplete appeals which cause delays. [Follow this guide](#) carefully when submitting an appeal so that your case is not delayed and more of our time is spent on progressing appeals.
- Alongside the focus on speeding up decisions we remain committed to retaining and improving the quality of decision making. The experimental statistics show between April and June 2022, 831 appeal cases were quality assured. This represents 22% of all decisions issued and includes 598 by Inspectors in Training as part of their learning.
- There are currently 62 local plan examinations in progress and many [Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects \(NSIPs\)](#) at various stages of their progress through the planning system. They include 69 national infrastructure schemes where we are providing advice before submission, 12 applications are being considered by us and there are 11 proposals where we have completed our recommendations and the Secretary of State's decision is awaited. These are vital to the ongoing support by The Planning Inspectorate to the country's economic recovery.

Published 18 August 2022

[Package of measures introduced to improve air quality](#)

Press release

Series of actions have been announced to improve air quality introduced under the Environment Act



- National Highways to work with local authorities to improve air quality
- Local Air Quality Guidance strengthened under the Environment Act
- Technical guidance also updated to support local air quality action

Local councils will have a new strengthened framework to improve air quality, under new plans announced by Defra today (18 August).

Using powers in the Environment Act, National Highways is to become the first designated “Relevant Public Authority” placing a legal requirement on it to work together with local councils when necessary to take effective action to deliver air quality standards and objectives. While National Highways already work with local authorities to improve air quality, this statutory requirement – consulted on earlier this year – will see a more consistent approach to meeting local air quality objectives on road networks.

In addition to this, Defra has updated [Local Air Quality Management \(LAQM\) Policy Guidance](#) to reflect legislative changes introduced through the Environment Act 2021 and clarify roles and responsibilities within local government.

Following consultation feedback, the guidance will be amended to include:

- A new requirement for local Air Quality Action Plans to include a timeline of clear actions that ensure Air Quality Objectives (pollution concentration limits) are met and air quality standards improve in local areas.
- The requirement for an Air Quality Management Area to be declared within 12 months of identifying an exceedance of the air quality objectives to ensure that local councils develop Air Quality Actions Plans more quickly.
- The requirement for local authorities to produce an Air Quality Action Plan within 18 months of declaring an Air Quality Management Area.
- A new reminder and warning alert system to increase local council compliance with reporting on actions they are taking to improve air quality.

The Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) Technical Guidance, which is designed to support local authorities in carrying out their duties under the Environment Act, has also been updated to reflect the legislative changes introduced through the Environment Act 2021.

Environment Minister Steve Double, said:

“These changes – delivered by our Environment Act – provide a strengthened framework for local councils to meet their air quality objectives, and will ensure that communities are protected sooner with real improvements to the air we breathe.”

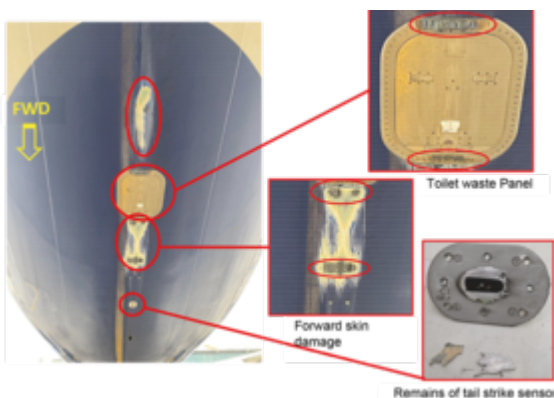
[Full guidance on Local Air Quality Management](#) is available on our dedicated website.

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[AAIB Report: Airbus A350-1041 \(G-XWBC\), tailstrike during go-around, London Heathrow Airport](#)

News story

During an approach into London Heathrow Airport on 2 January 2022, the aircraft floated along the runway and then, during a go-around, the aircraft’s tail struck the ground.



The aircraft was approaching Runway 27L at London Heathrow Airport at the end of a flight from Dubai. During the flare for landing the aircraft “floated” and the crew believed it would not land within the runway Touchdown Zone (TDZ). A go-around was initiated from low height and speed; the subsequent pitch rate caused the aircraft to reach a nose-up attitude sufficient to cause a tailstrike. The aircraft subsequently landed safely and there were no injuries to crew or passengers.

The investigation found that a go-around was initiated from low height and low speed. The aircraft had insufficient energy to climb immediately and so

touched down during the go-around process. The pitch rate induced by the co-pilot caused the aircraft to reach a nose up attitude sufficient to cause a tailstrike as the aircraft touched down.

[Read the report.](#)

Media enquiries call: 01932 440015 or 07814 812293

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[AAIB Report: Boeing 737-8K5 \(G-FDZF\), deviation from expected flightpath during a go-around, Aberdeen Airport](#)

News story

During a go-around at Aberdeen Airport on 11 September 2021, Boeing 737-8K5 (G-FDZF) descended from the go-around altitude for a minute before beginning to climb.



During a go-around at Aberdeen Airport, the aircraft descended from the go-around altitude for around a minute before subsequently climbing. The six crew members and all passengers were unharmed.

It is likely that the crew allowed the aircraft to descend without noticing after becoming overloaded by the high workload during the go-around. The high workload was due to a combination of factors: the requirements of flying the go-around manoeuvre manually; a larger than expected increase in thrust that led to a high pitch attitude and rate of climb; and the fact that non-standard go-around instructions were issued by ATC. Both pilots had experienced significant periods away from flying during the pandemic.

Following this event, safety action was taken by ATC at the airport in

relation to go-around procedures; the operator, which issued guidance to its pilots and developed a relevant training package; and by the manufacturer which issued clarification on the behaviour of the autothrust system during go-arounds.

[Read the report.](#)

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Charges and fees for services provided by APHA

In 2018 the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) committed to working towards achieving full cost recovery (FCR) for the statutory services it provides. As a result APHA are conducting a review of the current fees that it charges. Completing this work will reduce the under recovery of costs and reduce the burden on the public purse.

Planned Changes to Fees

Following detailed analysis, APHA and Defra Finance Teams have revised the fee schedule for 2 of the current chargeable services, Animal Gathering Orders and Defra Disinfectant Approval Scheme (an approval scheme administered on behalf of all 3 GB administrations), following the cost recovery principles of the [Managing Public Money guidelines](#).

Details of the fee changes are provided in [Schedule of Fees](#)

These changes are due to come into force from 1 December 2022 and apply to fees charged under the Government approved disinfectant scheme and to anyone making an application for an Animal Gathering Order licence to hold a livestock gathering located in England. The coming into force date is subject to change, please check GOV.UK for the confirmed implementation date.

The Scottish and Welsh Government are also committed to changing fees in line with APHA and are working closely to introduce legislation simultaneously.

APHA also propose to review the fees charged for the following services:

- Artificial Breeding Controls (ABC)
- Animal By-Products (ABP)
- Border Control Posts (BCP)
- Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)

- Poultry Health Scheme (PHS)
- Salmonella National Control Programme (NCP)

Schedule of Fees

Animal Gatherings Order

Fee Schedules for licensing certain animal gatherings. The table shows the proposed FCR fees (to be implemented in 2023) compared to the existing fees.

Activity	Existing Fees	FCR Fees
Market – Application – Basic Visit	£256.00	£379.00
Market – Application – with Additional Visit	£414.00	£685.00
Market – Re-approval – Basic Visit	£217.00	£340.00
Market – Re-approval – with Additional Visit	£342.00	£486.00
Market – Additional In-Year – 1 Visit	£173.00	£318.00
Show – Applications – Basic Visit	£114.00	£236.00
Show – Applications – Larger Show Visit	£245.00	£408.00
Show – Re-approval – No Visit	£91.00	£168.00
Show – Re-applications – with Visit – Low risk	£110.00	£171.00
Show – Re-applications – with Visit – Medium or high risk	£157.00	£229.00
Additional Veterinary Officer Time (per 15 minutes) ex travel	£16.00	£22.00
Veterinary Officer Travel Time (per 15 minutes)	£21.00	£22.00

Fee Schedules illustrating the impact of a phased increase in fees over 2 years, achieving FCR in 2023. The fees will be uplifted by 50% of the total increase in the first 12 months before moving to FCR.

Activity	Coming into force date	12 months following coming into force date
Market – Application – Basic Visit	£318.00	£379.00
Market – Application – with Additional Visit	£550.00	£685.00
Market – Re-approval – Basic Visit	£279.00	£340.00
Market – Re-approval – with Additional Visit	£414.00	£486.00
Market – Additional In-Year – 1 Visit	£246.00	£318.00
Show – Applications – Basic Visit	£175.00	£236.00
Show – Applications – Larger Show Visit	£327.00	£408.00
Show – Re-approval – No Visit	£130.00	£168.00
Show – Re-applications – with Visit – Low risk	£141.00	£171.00
Show – Re-applications – with Visit – Medium or high risk	£193.00	£229.00
Additional Veterinary Officer Time (per 15 minutes) ex travel	£22.00	£22.00

Activity	Coming into force date	12 months following coming into force date
Veterinary Officer Travel Time (per 15 minutes)	£22.00	£22.00

Defra Disinfectant Approval Scheme

Fee Schedules for licensing certain animal gatherings. The table shows the proposed Full Cost Recovery (FCR) fees (to be implemented in 2023) compared to the existing fees.

Annual or New Application	Existing Fees	FCR Fees
Annual fee for manufacturers who have an approved product	£375	£590
Fee for an application for a new approval	£1,000	£1,399
Purpose	Existing Fees	FCR Fees
Use in relation to diseases of poultry (if one dilution rate is specified by the person applying for the approval of the disinfectant)	£1,040	£3,778
Use in relation to diseases of poultry (if 3 dilution rates are specified by the person applying for the approval of the disinfectant)	£1,400	£4,172
Use in relation to tuberculosis (if one dilution rate is specified by the person applying for the approval of the disinfectant)	£1,300	£1,666
Use in relation to tuberculosis (if 3 dilution rates are specified by the person applying for the approval of the disinfectant)	£1,620	£2,050
Use in relation to foot-and-mouth disease	£1,920	£3,166
Use in relation to swine vesicular disease	£1,920	£3,166
Use in relation to all other instances where there is a legislative requirement to use an approved disinfectant (if one dilution rate is specified by the person applying for the approval of the disinfectant)	£715	£1,032
Use in relation to all other instances where there is a legislative requirement to use an approved disinfectant (if 3 dilution rates are specified by the person applying for the approval of the disinfectant)	£815	£1,131

Fee Schedules illustrating the impact of a phased increase in fees over 2 years, achieving FCR in 2023. The fees will be uplifted by 50% of the total increase in the first 12 months before moving to FCR.

Annual or New Application	Coming into force date	12 months following coming into force date
Annual fee for manufacturers who have an approved product	£482	£590

Annual or New Application	Coming into force date	12 months following coming into force date	
Purpose		Coming into force date	12 months following coming into force date
Fee for an application for a new approval	£1,199	£1,399	
Use in relation to diseases of poultry (if one dilution rate is specified by the person applying for the approval of the disinfectant)		£2,409	£3,778
Use in relation to diseases of poultry (if 3 dilution rates are specified by the person applying for the approval of the disinfectant)		£2,786	£4,172
Use in relation to tuberculosis (if one dilution rate is specified by the person applying for the approval of the disinfectant)		£1,483	£1,666
Use in relation to tuberculosis (if 3 dilution rates are specified by the person applying for the approval of the disinfectant)		£1,835	£2,050
Use in relation to foot-and-mouth disease		£2,543	£3,166
Use in relation to swine vesicular disease		£2,543	£3,166
Use in relation to all other instances where there is a legislative requirement to use an approved disinfectant (if one dilution rate is specified by the person applying for the approval of the disinfectant)		£874	£1,032
Use in relation to all other instances where there is a legislative requirement to use an approved disinfectant (if 3 dilution rates are specified by the person applying for the approval of the disinfectant)		£973	£1,131

If you have any queries, please email the APHAChargingEnquiries@apha.gov.uk mailbox.