

Plain Dealing Revisited

Planning for flood resilience

Data appendix

1. Planning portal analysis

Planning portals were analysed from the 1st of January to the 14th July 2024 for approvals of all applications including reserved matters applications, modifications of conditions, permission in principle applications, prior approval applications. The location of new applications was checked against the flood risk map for zones 2 and 3. 'New' approvals are those relating to full, outline or reserved matters applications decided in the examined time period involving construction of new dwellings, with the 'planning pipeline' defined as all applications relating to ongoing permissions and 'dwellings on previously developed land' referring to change of use applications and applications where existing structures were to be demolished before constructing new dwellings.

2. Freedom of Information requests

The results of our Freedom of Information requests to the councils in the top decile for homes at risk of flooding (per the NAO, 2020) are presented in the table below.

Authority	Response	
South Holland District		110
Boston District	No	
Fenland District	No	
Runnymede District	No	
King's Lynn and West Norfolk District	576 (number for all of West Norfolk due to joint planning)	
City of Kingston upon Hull	No	
East Lindsey District	89 applications granted, but without specifying flood zones	
North Lincolnshire		34
Spelthorne District		16
Doncaster District	No	
Exeter District	5 (including one where part of site but not development is in FZ 2&3)	
Windsor and Maidenhead		84
North Yorkshire		237
East Riding of Yorkshire	No	
South Lakeland District		
Gloucester District		200
Teignbridge District		45
East Devon District	No	
Hart District		0
Elmbridge District		
Kingston upon Thames London Boro	No	
Huntingdonshire District	21 (7 of which, travelers' pitches)	
North East Lincolnshire	No	

Tonbridge and Malling District	No	
Canterbury District	No	
Charnwood District	No	
Mid Devon District	No	
City of Leicester	No	
Folkestone and Hythe District		123
Calderdale District	No	
West Devon District		111

For some of the districts where we also analysed the planning portals, the FOI responses were slightly different due to our totals. However our question did not cover outline or reserved matters applications, which we counted as part of our analysis. Our count also erred on the side of caution where including flood-zone dwellings, which may have meant we missed some dwellings on floodplain land which the local authority had more detailed information on. The discrepancies are displayed in the table below:

	Portal count	FOI
Boston	229	NA
Doncaster	227	NA
East Lindsey	51	NA
Exeter	0	5
Fenland	35	NA
Kings Lynn & West Norfolk	54	NA
Hull	90	NA
North Lincs	15	34
Runnymede	0	NA
South Holland	178	110
Spelthorne	0	16
Windsor & Maidenhead	130	84