

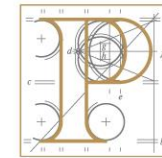
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Provisional Statistics – 2024

Summary of Caseload Reduction 2023/2024

General Progress Update 2024

Case Intake/Case Disposal 2020 – 2024

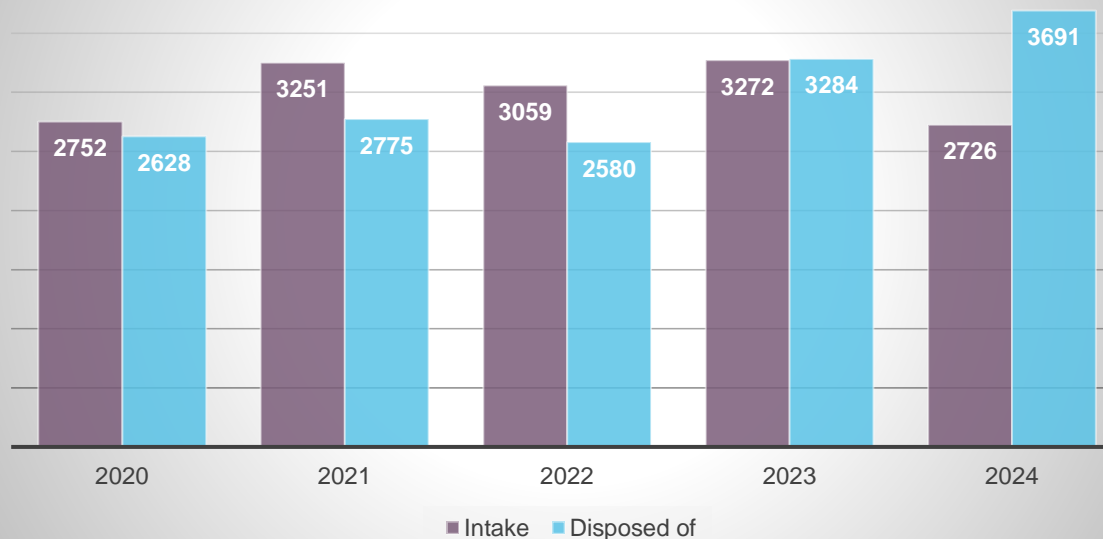


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	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (Provisional)
Intake	2752	3251	3059	3272	2726
% Increase/(decrease)		18.1	(5.9)	7.0	(16.7)
Disposed of	2628	2775	2580	3284	3691*
% Increase/(decrease)		5.6	(7.0)	27.3	12.4

*3096 were formal decisions
603 were otherwise disposed of e.g. withdrawn, invalid, etc.

Intake v Disposed of



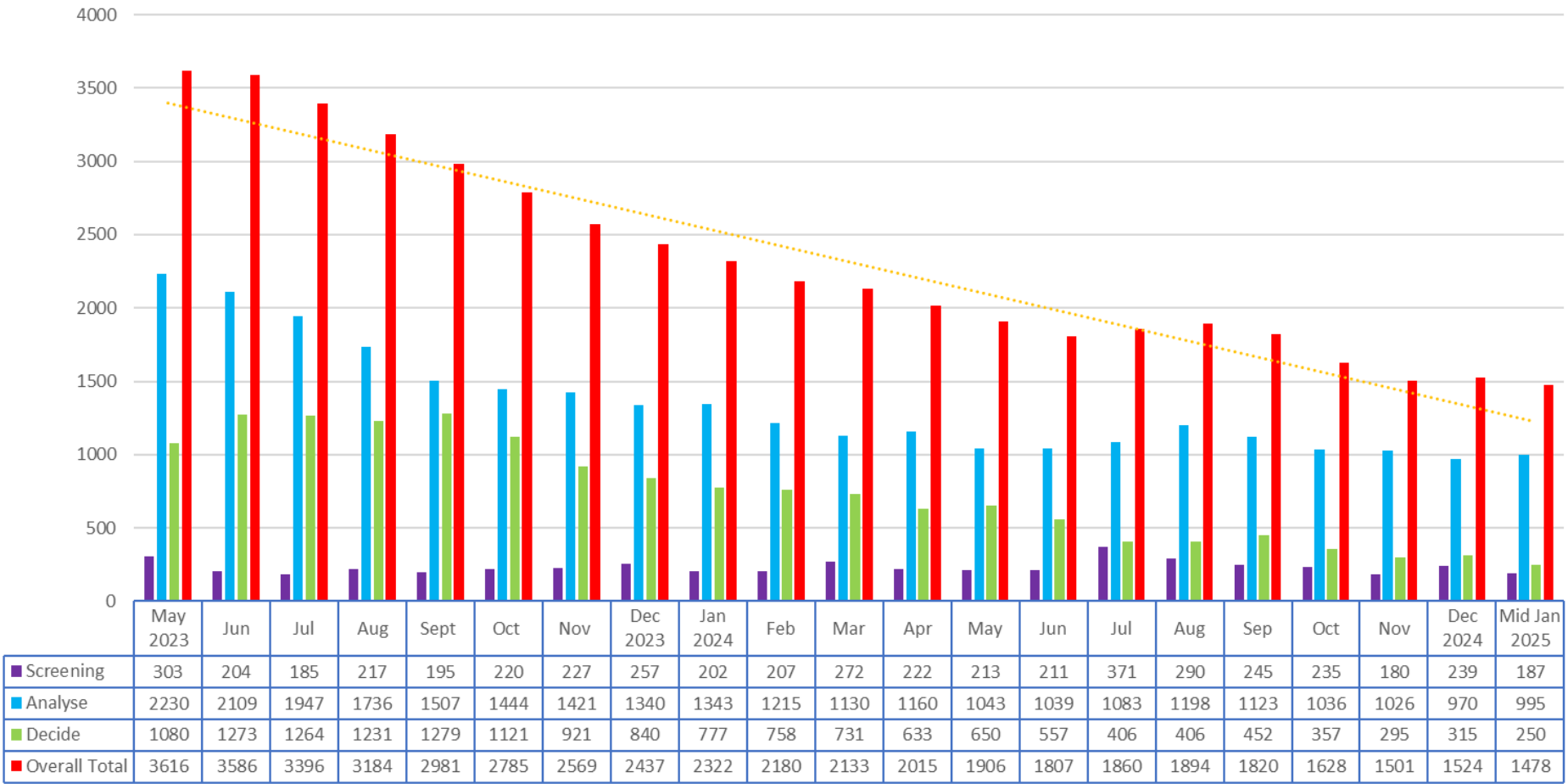
Peak on hand caseload at May 2023 of 3616 cases
(including RZLT of 648 cases)

May 2023 - Mid January 2025

1478 Files on Hand

(Minus the agreed ongoing pre-applications)

(Total Decrease 59.13%)



Summary of Peak on hand caseload at May 2023 cases (including RZLT of 648 cases)

Live Cases on Hand		
Dec 2023 - Mid Jan 2025		
Minus the agreed (<u>discounted</u>) and ongoing Pre-Application Cases		
May 2023 - Mid- January 2025	Overall Case File Total	% Decrease YTD
May-23	3616	
Dec-23	2437	-32.61%
Jan-24	2322	-4.72%
Dec-24	1524	-34.37%
Jan-25	1478	-3.02%
		-59.13%

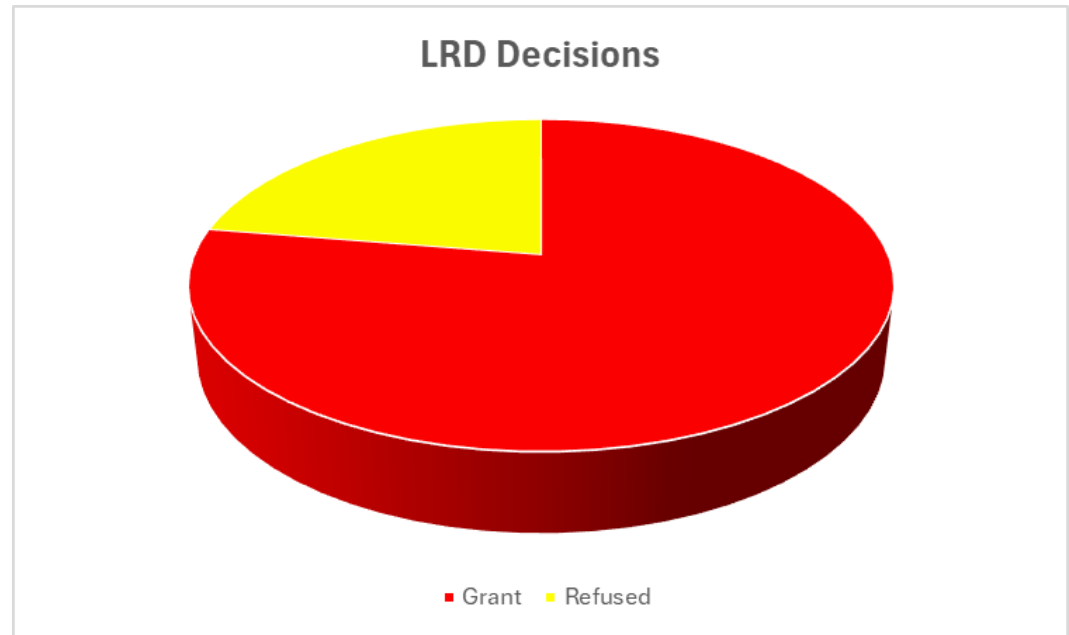


Housing

Large-scale Residential Development (LRD)



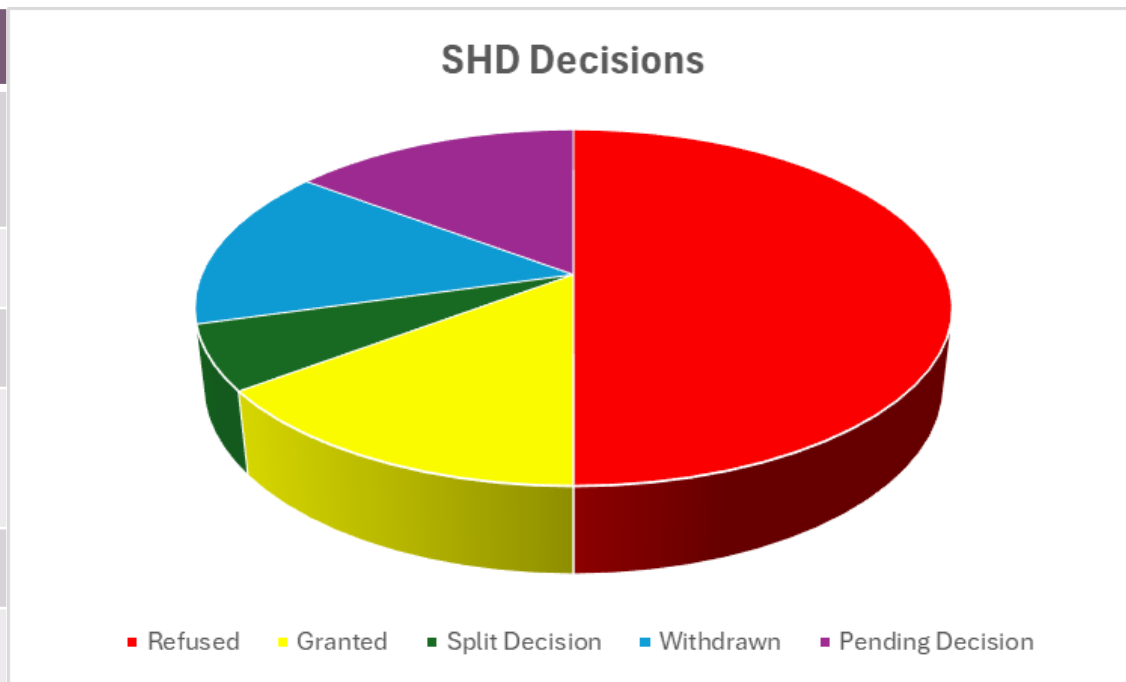
- » **58 LRD cases** decided by the Board (45 grants & 13 refused) (5,108 apartments and 2,184 houses granted).
- » 100% of cases disposed of by the Board within the statutory time frame of 16 weeks, with cases on average being disposed of within **12.95 weeks**



Housing

SHD – Decisions 2024 to date

Decision	No.
Granted (3 of which are now in JR)	5
Refused	17
Split	2
Discharged Pending Decision	5
Withdrawn	5
Total	34



Active Land Measures

- » **RZLT**
- » **134 cases** received.
- » **100%** compliance with 16 week SOP.
- » **Derelict Sites**
- » **92 cases** decided.



Older Cases – Actively managing remaining Normal Planning Appeals (NPA) at Inspectorate



Year	Total Cases
2021	5
2022	7
2023	22

Strategic Infrastructure Development, Marine, Environment and Climate (SIDMEC) Direct Applications and Renewables Team



» Team update

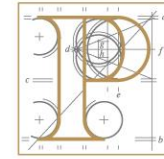
- » Overall team increased to 32 Inspectors and three Assistant Directors of Planning (ADP) during 2024
- » Three sub-teams: Onshore Renewables; Marine; and, 7th Schedule /Roads and Rail each with **focused ADP**
- » The environmental team includes four specialists (due to expand to six by month end)

MARINE Applications



- » Five of the six **Phase 1 ORE** projects now received (Sceirde Rocks off west coast received last Friday 17th January 2025).
 - » Original **MAC deadline** required all projects to be lodged with ABP by June 24
 - » Oriel, NISA and Arklow lodged early Summer 24
 - » Codling lodged late September 24
 - » Dublin Array has not yet been lodged and not expected till late Q1/early Q2 2025
 - » Lodgement delays are because extra time is needed by **applicants** due to **complexity of preparing applications**
- » Assessment of the first four lodged cases is ongoing. Sceirde at screening.
- » Pre application consultation with a number of Ports to facilitate ORE have completed and applications anticipated.

Wind – Strategic Infrastructure & Appeals



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2024	SID/SC	Appeals
Cases Received	12	13
Decisions Made	12	12
Granted	7	6*
Turbines Granted (approx)	102	37
Refused	5	6
Reasons for refusal - Development Plan policy, landscape, Peat Stability, AA, Birds		
* 3 of these grants were overturns of PA refusals		

KEY:
24 Windfarm decisions
made for **NEW**
developments,
Improvements in
timelines

Solar Decisions - 2024

2024	Appeals
Cases Received	17
Decisions Made	18
Granted	17*
Refused	1
Reasons for refusal - Impact on Water Quality AA	
* 4 of these grants were overturns of PA refusals	

KEY:
18 decisions
1 refusal

- » Details – applications to PA provide limited detail on output (MW).

Cases on Hand (as of 20.01.25)

Cases On Hand	Total	Board	Inspector
Solar	10	3	7
Wind SID	16*	5 (2 decided)	11
Wind Appeals	15*	3	12
* includes remittals from courts			

Timelines in weeks – improvements 2023 v 2024



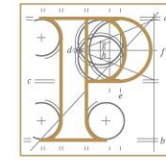
- » Timelines have improved for decisions between 2023 and 2024
- » **Solar Farm** planning appeal timeframes have improved from an average of c.57 weeks in 2023 to c.36 weeks in 2024 with two recent cases being decided in less than 18 weeks
- » **Windfarm planning appeal** timeframes have improved from an average of c.111 weeks in 2023 to c.33 weeks in 2024 with cases ranging from 21 to 40 weeks over 2024
- » **Direct windfarm application** timeframes have improved from an average of c.86 weeks in 2023 to c.68 weeks in 2024 (excluding Further Information times) with recent decisions being made in 49 and 53 weeks for example.

7th Schedule, Local Authority and Road & Rail cases



- » **Case Decisions for 2024**
- » 80 no. Local Authority decisions by the Board
 - » 46 no. Reports discharged by Inspectors
- » 14 no. Road Development Projects including:
 - » 10 no. BusConnects & 10 no. CPOs
- » 2 no. DART (Dart West & Dart Southwest)
 - » DART North lodged July 2024

Resourcing Overview 2022 – End Jan 2025



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FTE	Board	Senior Management	Inspectorate	Administration	Total
End 2022	5	18	66 (1)	113	202
End 2023	15	18	86 (3)	131	250
End 2024	17	27	100 (3)	146	290
2022 v 2024					+43%
End Jan 2025	15	27	102	148	292
Sanctioned FTE					313

Period: Jan-Dec 2024

New Starters 54 (6 due to start Jan 2025)

Leavers 26

Promotions 35



Board Members



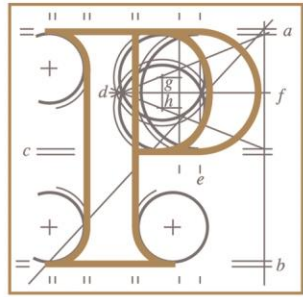
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- Full complement of 15 permanent Board Members January 2025
 - 4 new appointments in September
 - 1 new appointment in October 2024
 - 1 new appointment in January 2025
 - Transition period for new Members to get up to speed
 - 17 Board members had been in place from September 2024 to end of December 2024



Transformation & Digital Services



- Online services in collaboration with OGCIOL
 - Providing online capability for normal planning appeals (NPA) and payments, leveraging the public service 'building blocks' platform. Expected go-live end of Q2 2025.
 - Utilising OGCIOL services enables cost-effectiveness, speed of implementation and adherence to customer experience guidelines across public services
- Business process transformation in-line with digital services & new legislation
 - Change Management program across the organisation to implement identified productivity efficiencies through further digitalisation of case files, and in the context of the new Planning and Development Act 2024..
- Evaluation of AI & Data Analytics capabilities
 - Currently exploring the potential future use of GenAI as part of the overall Digital Transformation Strategy. Such future use of Gen AI will be specifically designed and piloted in the context of the organisation's risk management framework, and with the benefit of all appropriate security mitigations, and when approved for business purposes, this use will be rolled out to employees with the appropriate user guidance including the required security measures.
 - Any AI capabilities will be in-line with the [National AI Strategy 2024](#)



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