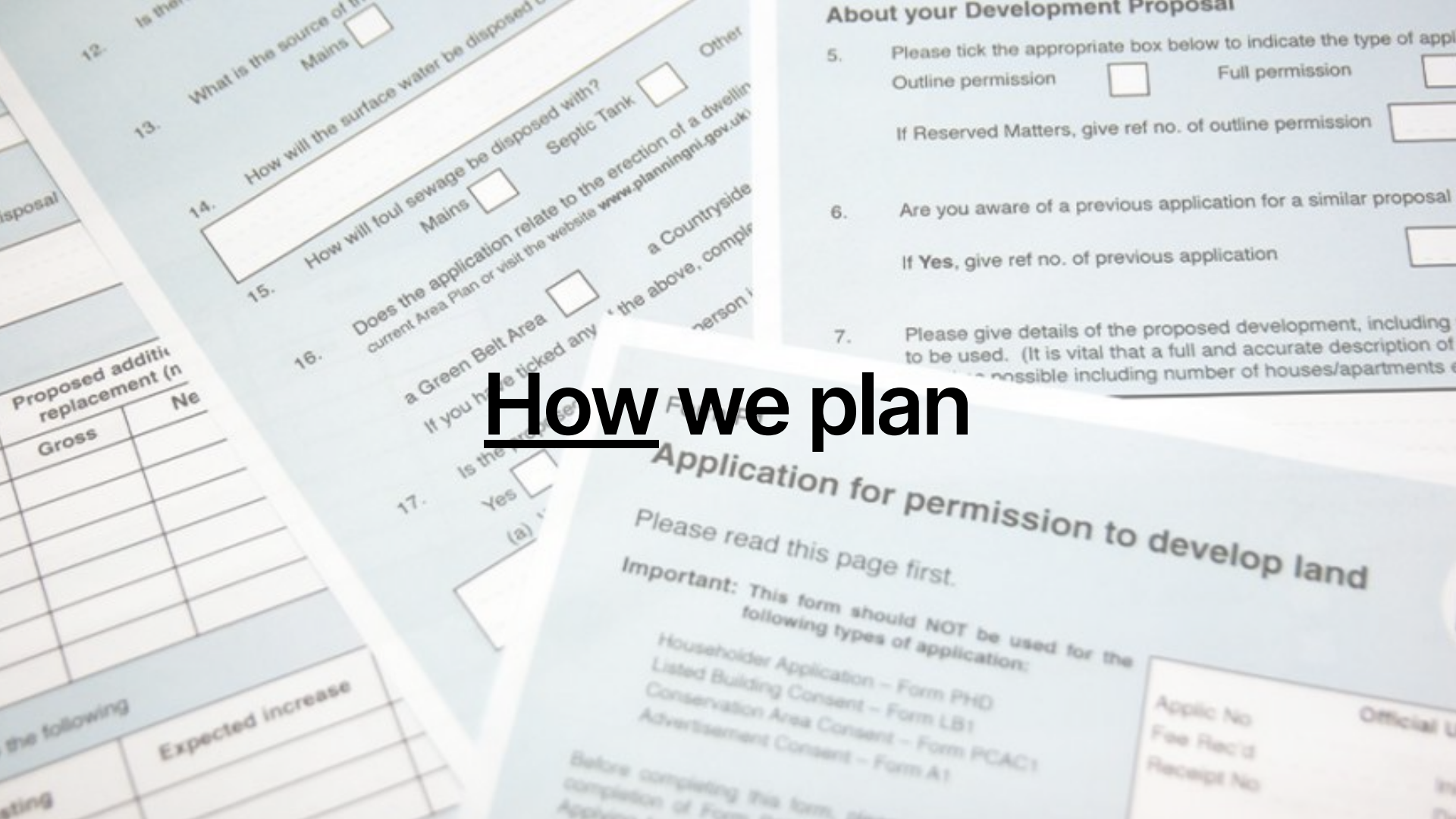


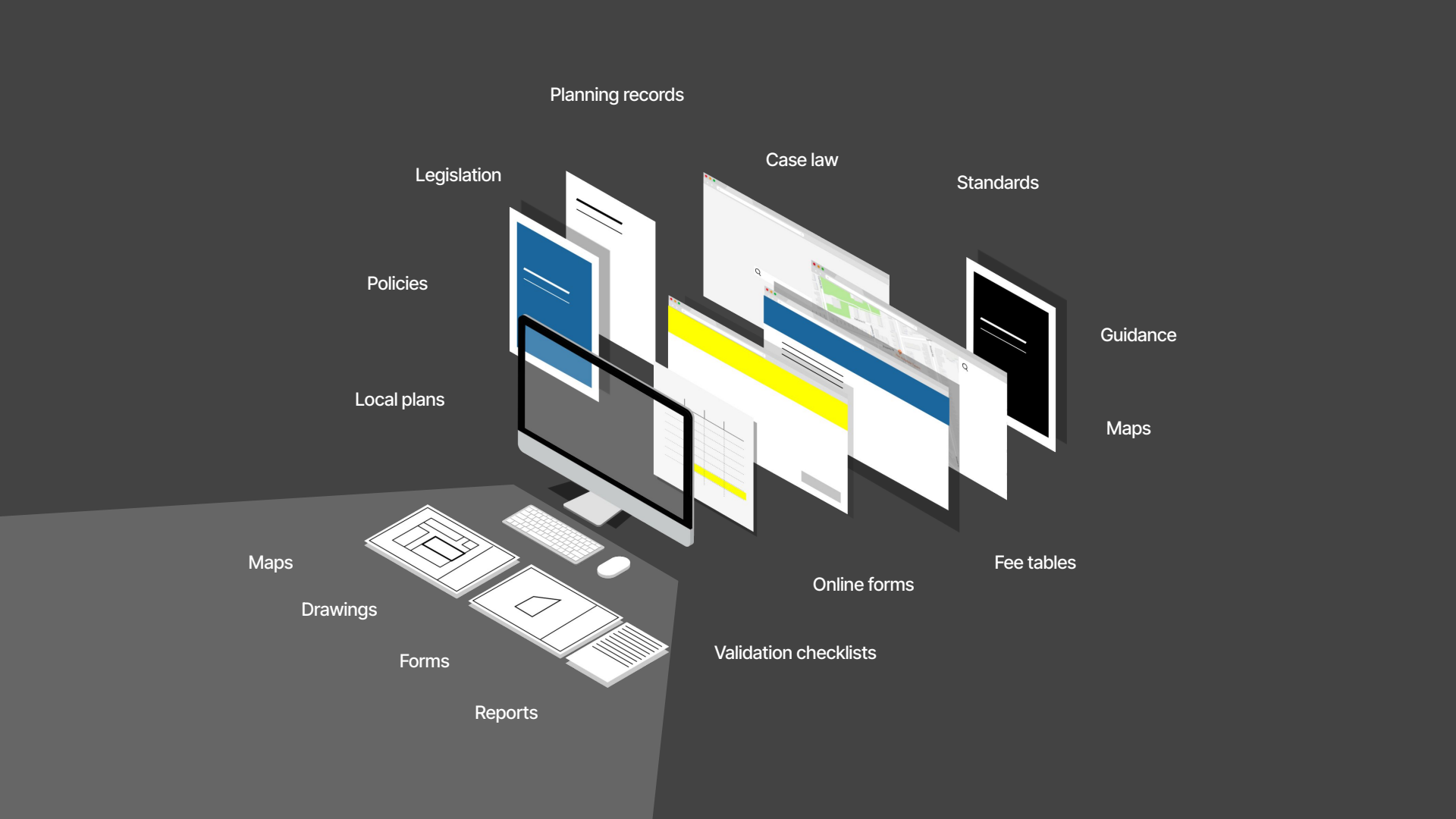
# Digital planning services Plan X



# What we plan

# How we plan





Planning records

Legislation

Case law

Standards

Policies

Guidance

Local plans

Maps

Maps

Fee tables

Drawings

Online forms

Forms

Validation checklists

Reports

**Enforcement burden**  
Many cases are inadvertent

**Reporting & FOIs**  
Hours spent manually collating & doing data entry

**Most applications are invalid**  
For avoidable reasons

**Consultation**  
Manual admin requesting collecting and collating responses

**Many applications are refused**  
For avoidable reasons

**Appeals**  
Many due to inconsistency (perceived or real)

**Enquiries, complaints, failure demand**  
Mostly repetitive, avoidable

**Staff turnover & training**  
Due to stress, low morale, inexperience

**Reading & assessing applications**  
Hours spent manually parsing mostly redundant information



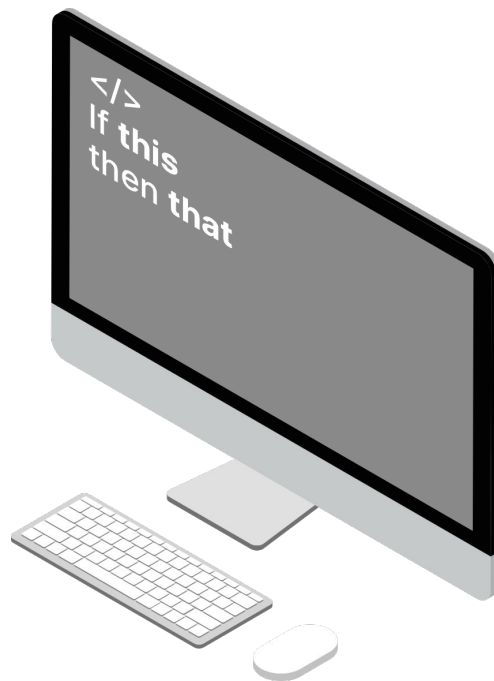
Administration, enquiries, complaints,  
information-requests, validation, reporting,  
data-entry, enforcement...

Actual  
planning





Documents



Data



→ [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)  
Guidance and support

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[Brexit: check what you need to do](#)

[Find a job](#)

[Personal tax account: sign in](#)

[Universal Credit account: sign in](#)

## Search



## Topics

### [Benefits](#) >

Includes eligibility, appeals, tax credits and  
Universal Credit

### [Births, deaths, marriages and care](#) >

Parenting, civil partnerships, divorce and Lasting

# Ten design principles for digital planning services



### Form validations

Makes it impossible to submit unless all required information has been submitted.



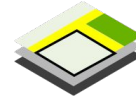
### 'Smart' validation rules

Use 'rules as code' to request the information that users need to provide based on their application



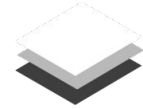
### 'Smart' planning rules

Use 'rules as code' to provide self-serve guidance or pre-assess projects against legislation and policy.



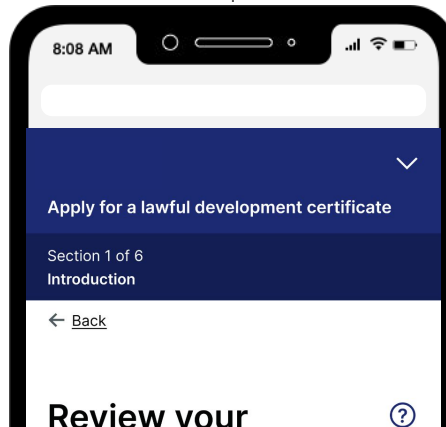
### GIS data

Tell users what policies and conditions (eg Conservation Areas) apply to their property

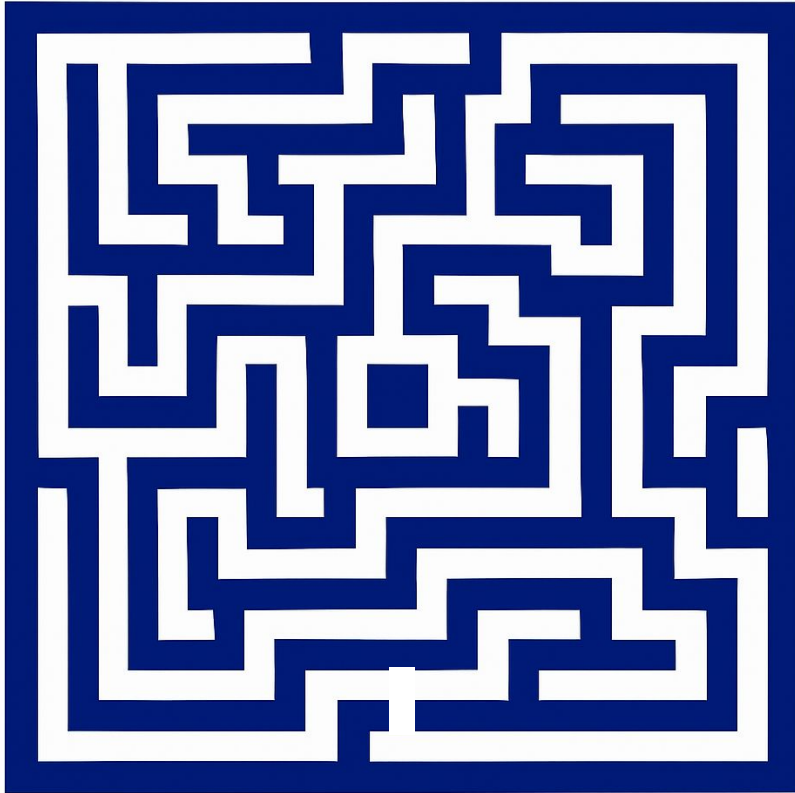


### Structured data

Collect data and shared data in a machine-readable way, making it accessible and allowing others to build automations



**Doing this for planning is really hard**



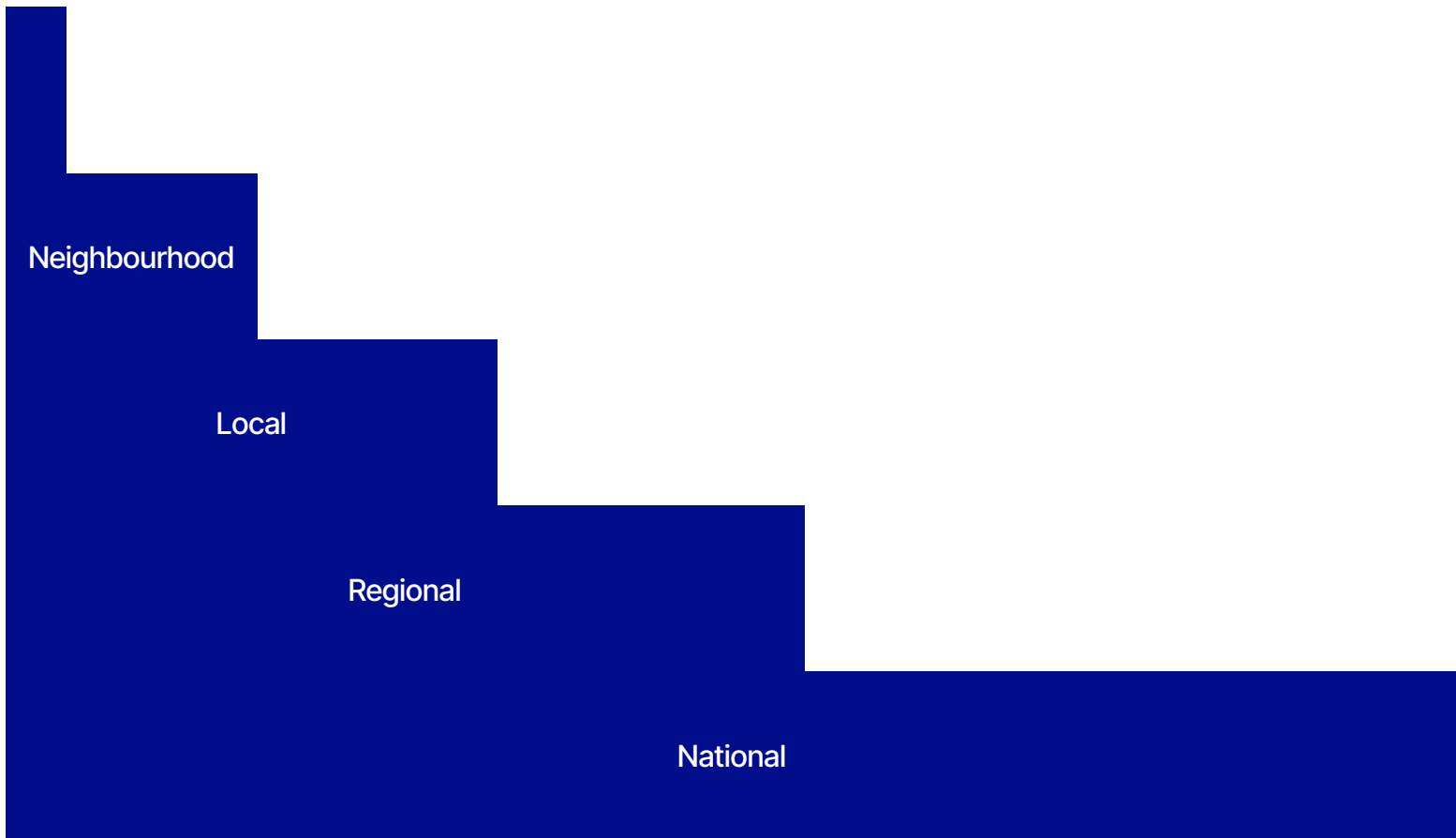
Property

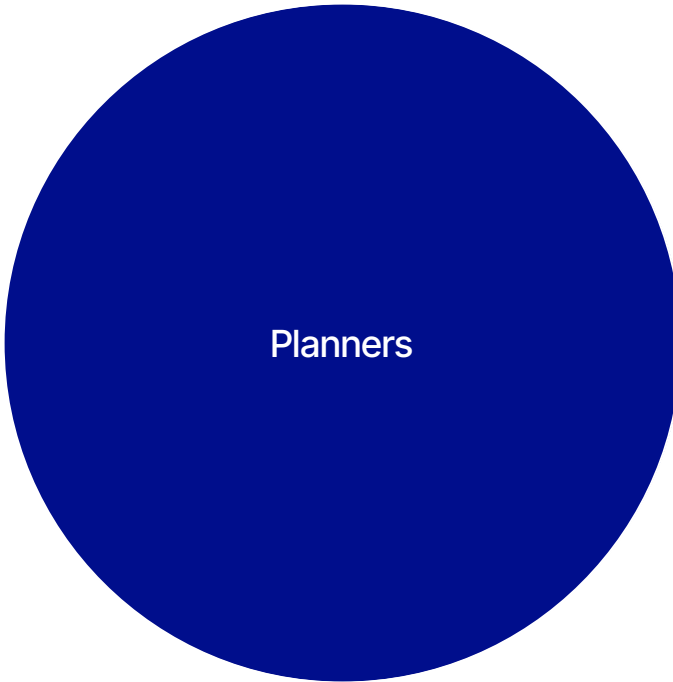
Neighbourhood

Local

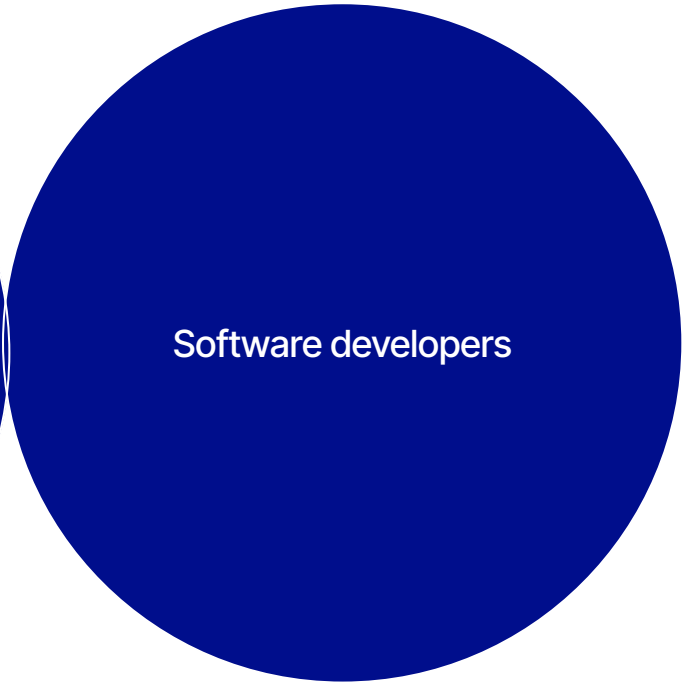
Regional

National

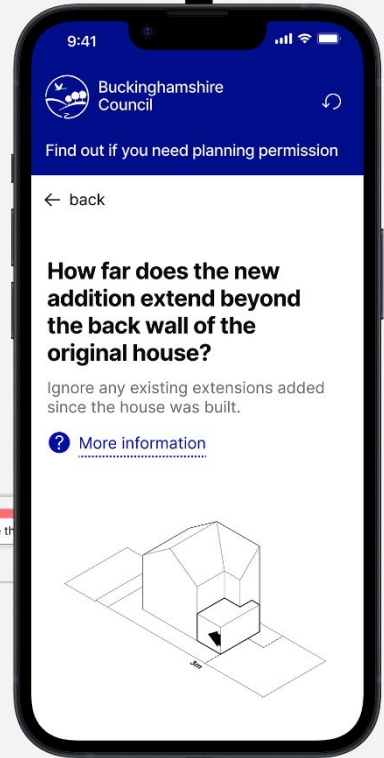
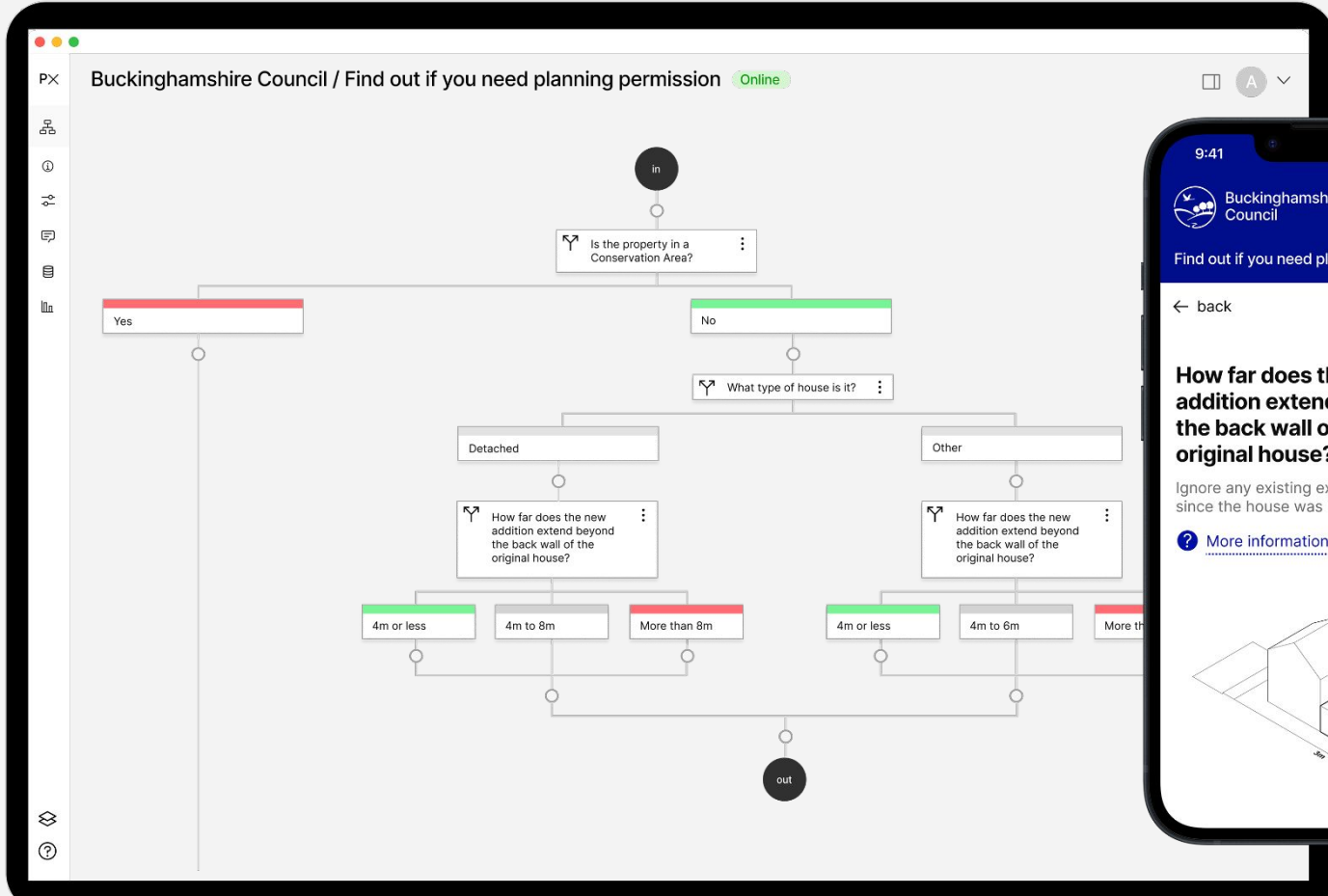




Planners



Software developers



A person in a dark jacket is pointing at a laptop screen. The screen shows a web page from Southwark Council titled "Find out if you need planning permission". The page contains a checklist of steps: "About the property", "Check or amend the outline of your site", "Planning constraints", "Select the works stage", and "Permitted development". Below these are three decision questions: "Is the property subject to any Article 4 directions?", "Is the property subject to any Article 4 directions?", and "Do the works affect to any Article 4 directions?". Each question has "Yes" and "No" options. The laptop is a MacBook Pro, and the background is a blurred office setting.

# Collective intelligence

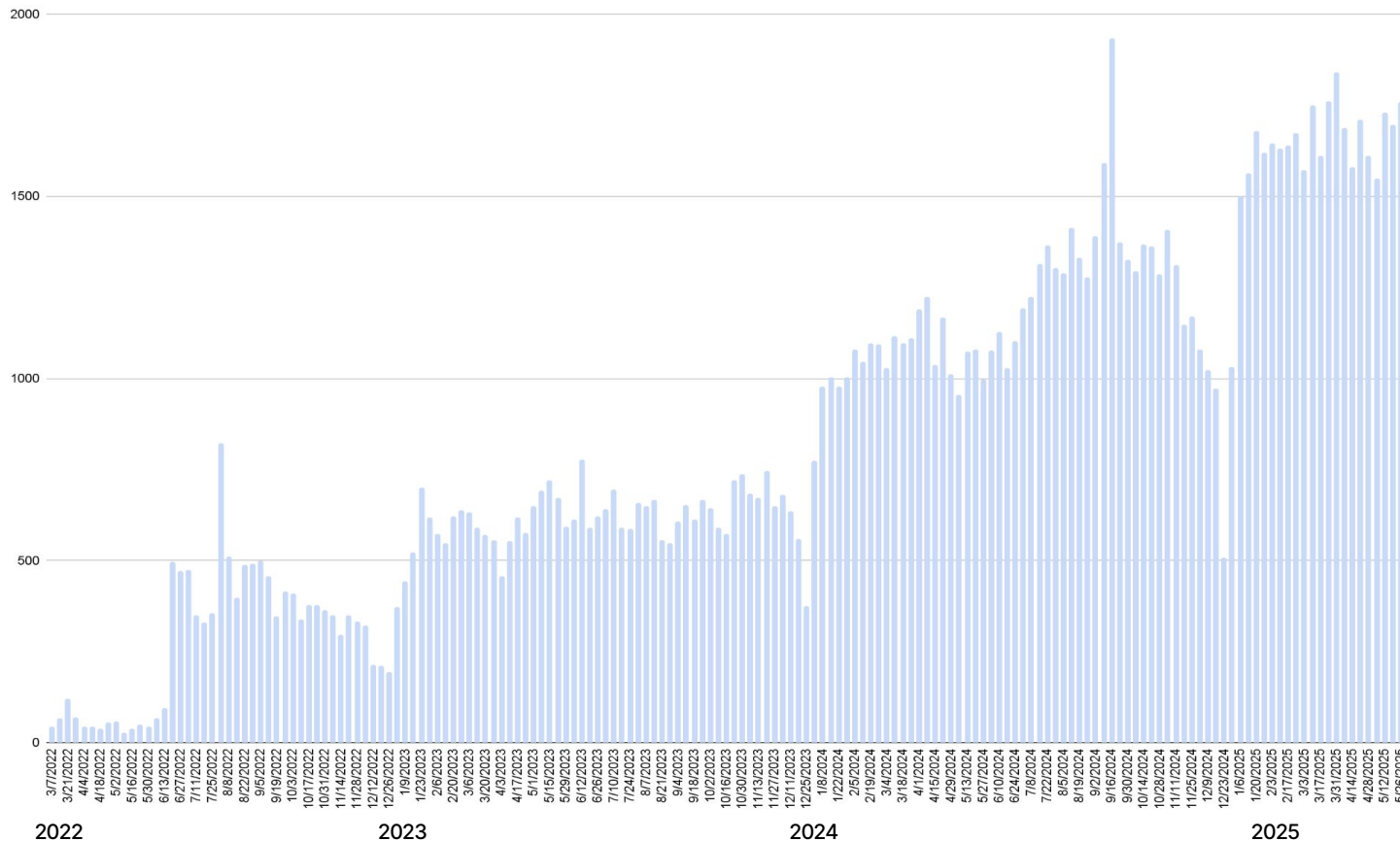
← [Back](#)

### What will you use the extension for?

Select all that apply

[? More information](#)

- Kitchen
- Living
- Conservatory
- Bedroom
- WC or bathroom
- Garage
- Storage



Plan X is currently live with 18 local planning authorities, with a further 10+ currently preparing to go live.

It is currently used by around 1700 people every week.



## Find out if you need planning permission

↓ **60%**  
reduction in enquiries  
Camden

↑ **16%**  
Increase in LDC revenues  
Doncaster

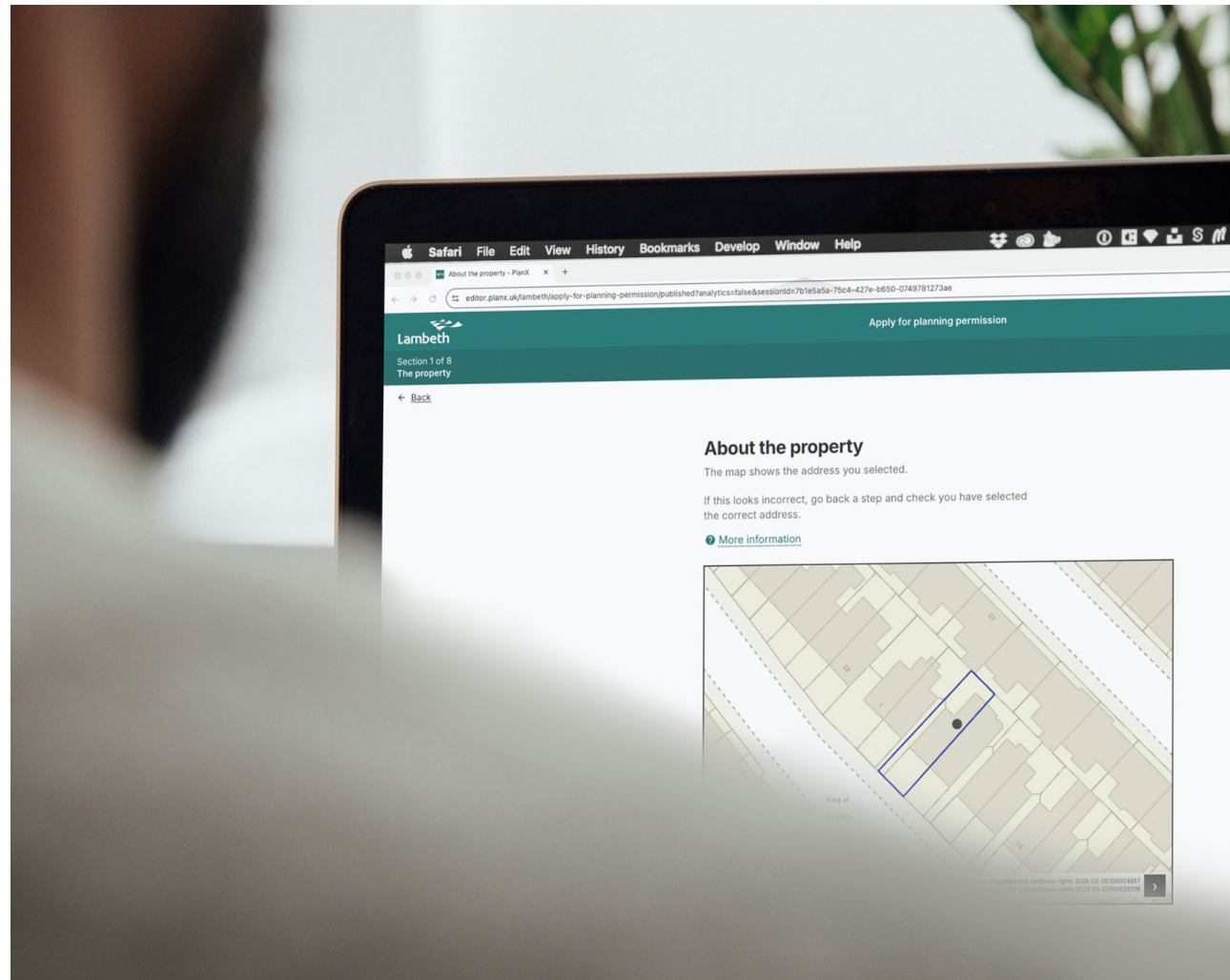
# Apply for planning permission

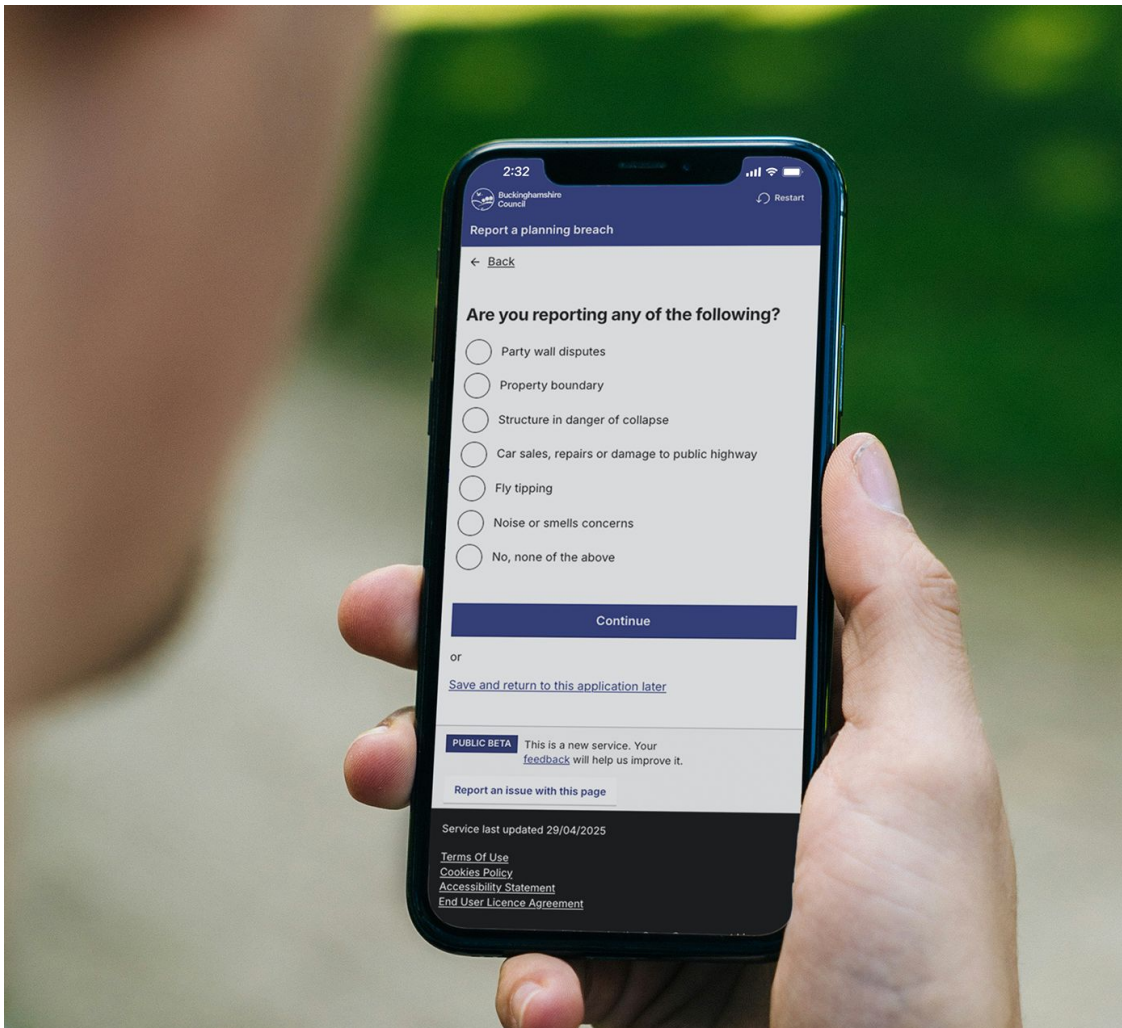
↑ **82%**  
applications valid on first receipt, compared to 33% previously

Lambeth

↓ **40%**  
Reduction in overall processing time used with BOPS

Lambeth





# Report a breach

↓ **33%**  
reduction in overall  
reports  
Buckinghamshire

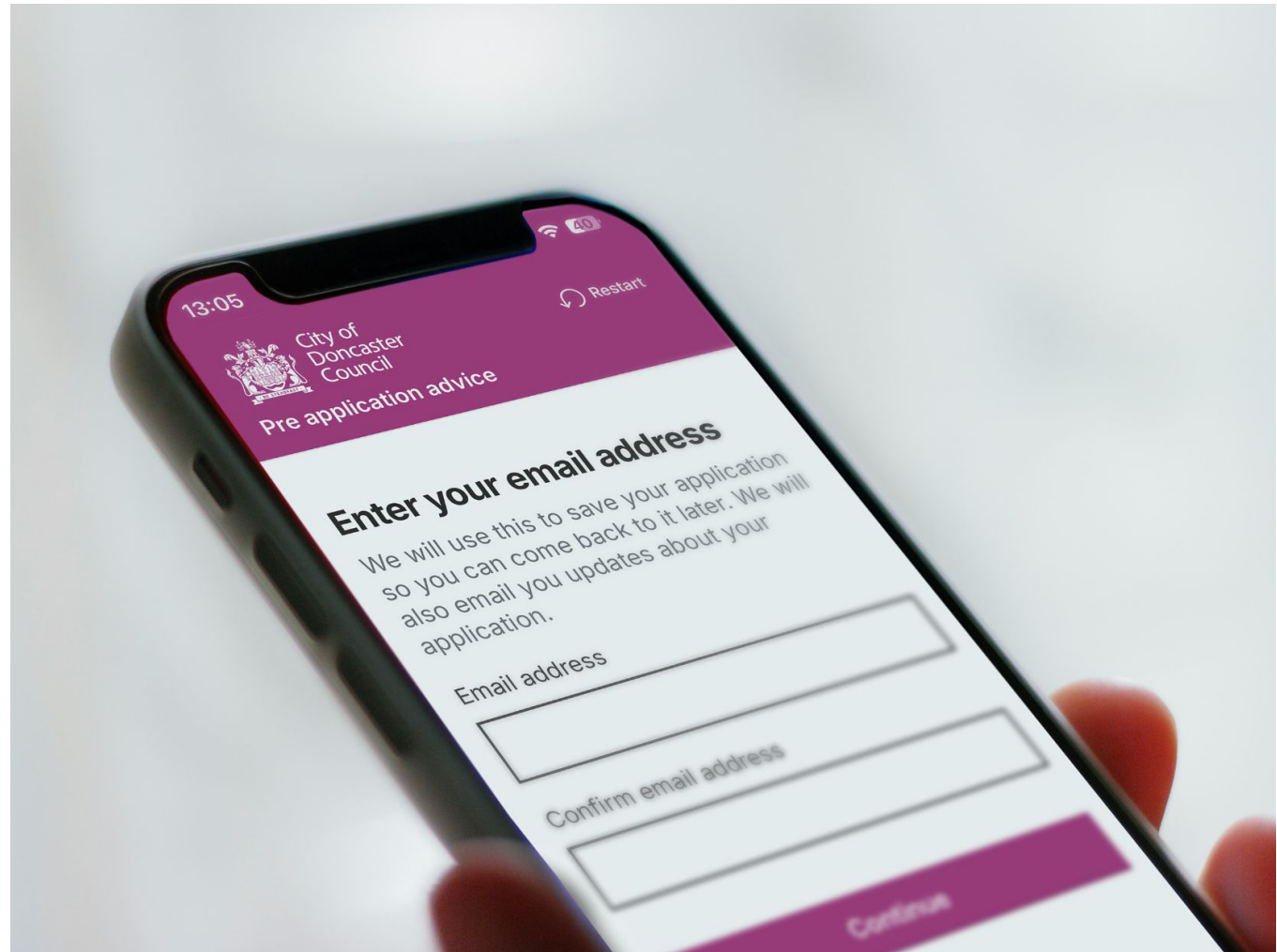
↓ **83%**  
reduction in  
unnecessary  
Medway

# Apply for planning advice

↓ 80%

Reduction in time  
taken to process a  
pre-app

Doncaster



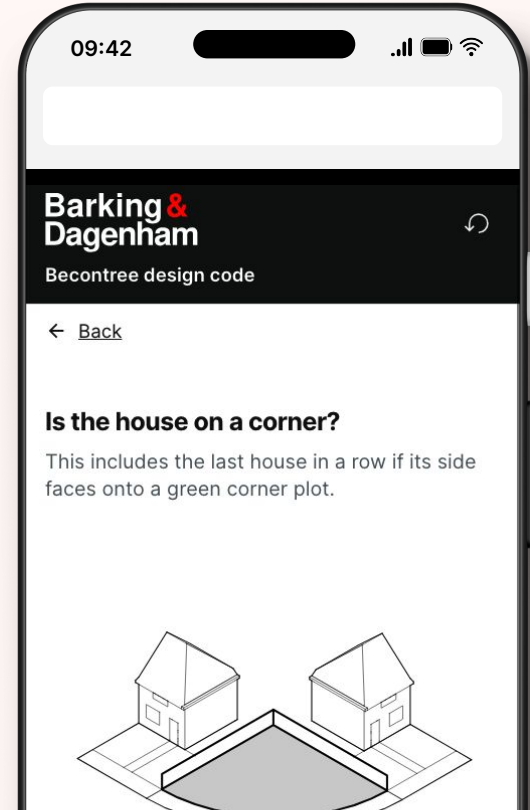


Design codes

Beechtree Estate, Barking

# Becontree Design Code

Draft | May 2023



**Where to start?**

Map of planning data for England

planning.data.gov.uk/map/?dataset=article-4-direction-area#51.50302052849071,-0.115378399578276,14.129413355727628z

Planning and housing data in England

About Datasets Search Map API Design data Provide data

**BETA** This is a new service – to help us improve it, [sign up to take part in research](#)

< Back

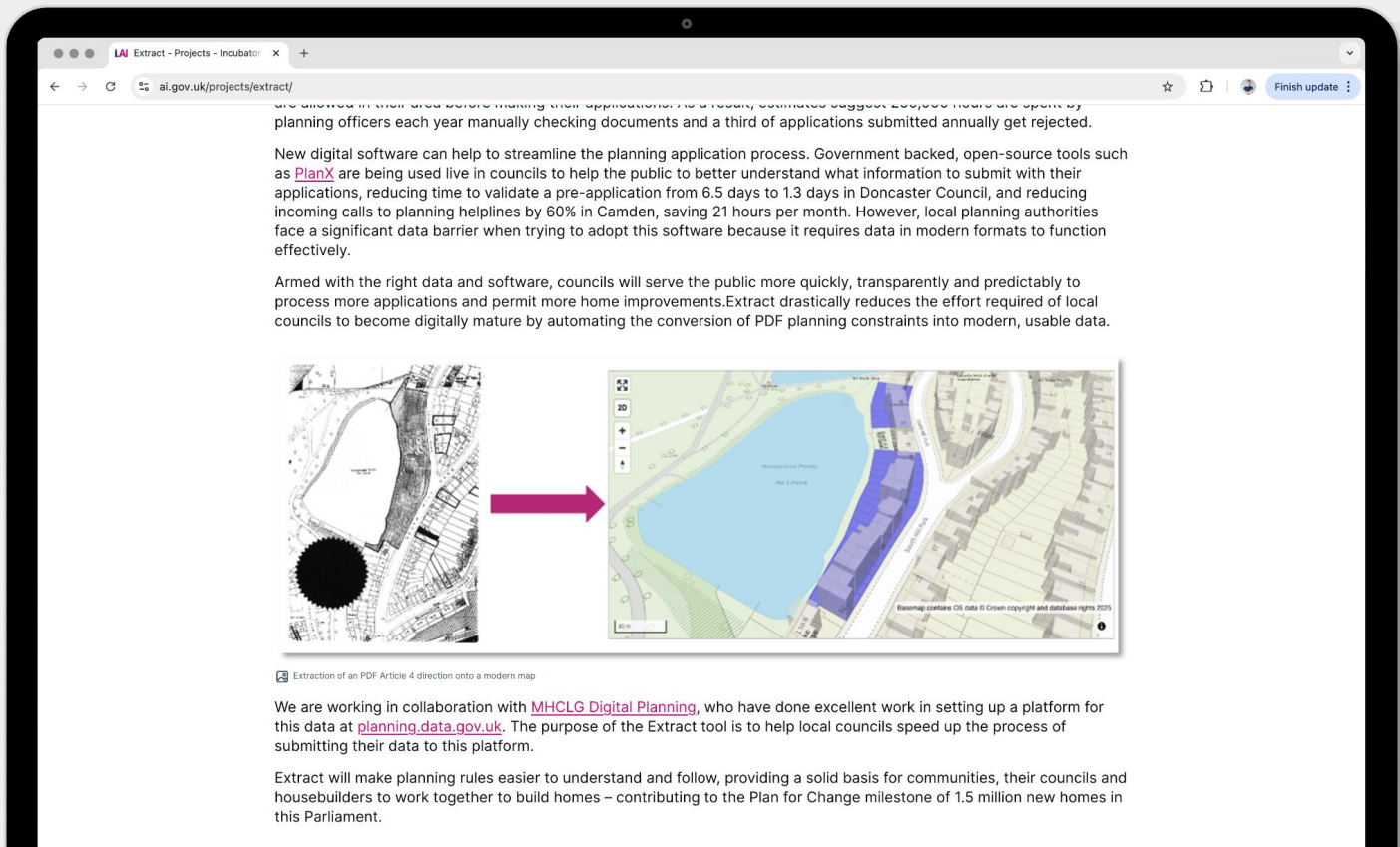
## Map of planning data for England

See the data we've collected and collated on a map.

**Data layers**

- Air quality management area
- Ancient woodland
- Archaeological priority area
- Area of outstanding natural beauty
- Article 4 direction area
- Battlefield
- Border
- Brownfield land
- Brownfield site
- Building preservation notice

Basemap contains OS data © Crown copyright and database rights 2025



# Gap: open planning register data

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the Camden Open Data website. The page title is 'Planning Applications | Open' and the URL is 'opendata.camden.gov.uk/Environment/Planning-Applications/2eiu-s2cw/about\_data'. The Camden logo is at the top left, and a search bar is at the top right. A yellow navigation bar contains 'Home', 'Data', 'Help', and 'Developers'. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with 'About', 'Data', and 'Related Content'. A blue 'Actions' dropdown and an 'Export' button are also present.

The main content area features a section for 'Planning Applications' with a sub-tab for 'Environment'. The text describes the dataset as containing planning applications in the London Borough of Camden from 2010 to 2025, based on OS MasterMap data. It includes a 'Read more' button and metadata such as 'Last Updated: February 12, 2025' and 'Data Provided By: London Borough of Camden'.

Below this is an 'About this Dataset' section with a table of metadata:

<b>Updated</b> <b>February 12, 2025</b>	<b>OS Licence Detail</b>
<b>Data Last Updated</b> February 12, 2025	<b>Licence Type</b> OS OpenData
<b>Metadata Last Updated</b> February 12, 2025	<b>Licence Information</b> Data derived from OS products which is free to use under the Open Government Licence. The following statement MUST be included when using this data: Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database right [year]
<b>Date Created</b> May 1, 2015	<b>Licence URL</b> <a href="http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/business-and-government/licensing/using-creating-data-with-os-products/os-opendata.html">http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/business-and-government/licensing/using-creating-data-with-os-products/os-opendata.html</a>
<b>Views</b> <b>23.5K</b>	<b>Point of Contact</b>
<b>Downloads</b> <b>38.8K</b>	<b>Directorate</b> Culture and Environment

# Start with users

## Follow the 80/20 rule



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company registered in England &  
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Ministry of Housing,  
Communities &  
Local Government

