

Digital Planning Update

November 2024

Our strategy and vision

- Open access to information, for everyone to have a voice in the planning process – all people, communities and businesses
- Citizens shape their communities, environment, and economy
- Use open data, technology, and digital services, to put citizens at the centre, continuously improve the services we offer, empower officers

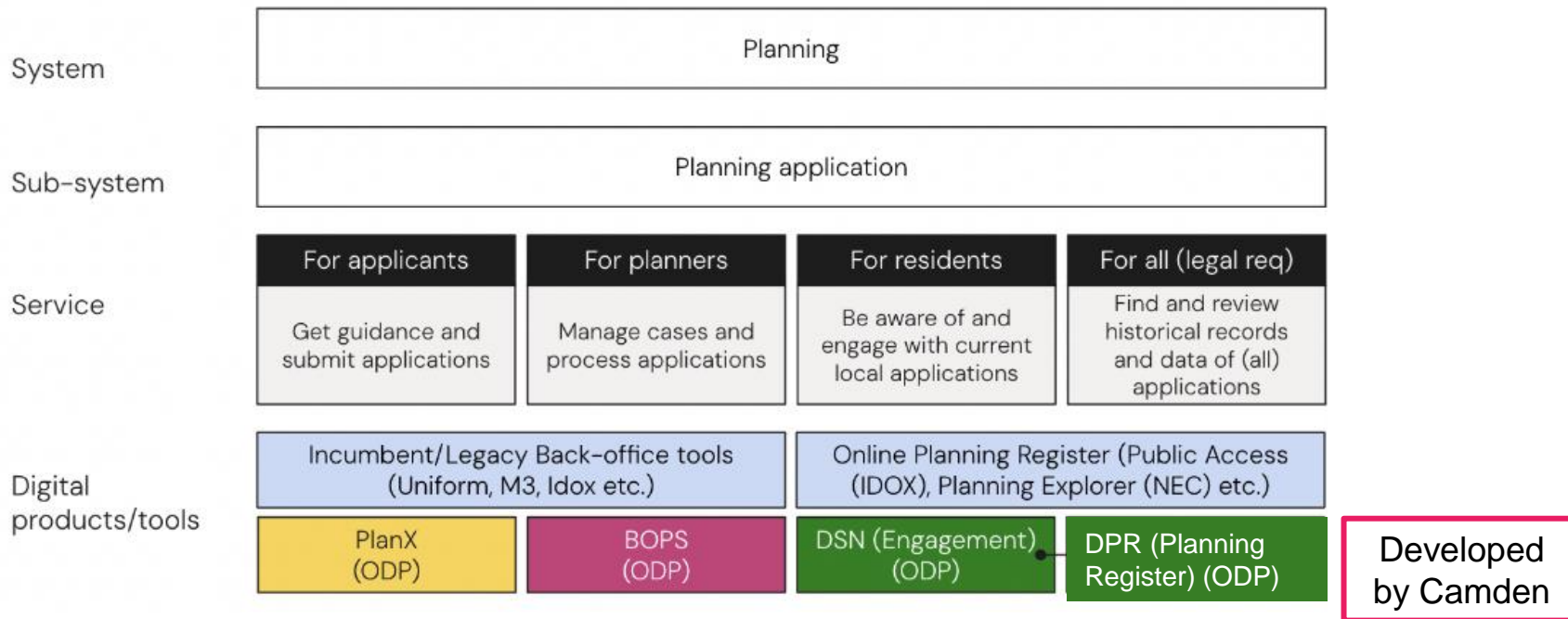
Our strategy - how

1. Open up data, make information accessible to everyone
2. Engage with communities and help them engage with us and each other
3. Using data to improve our understanding when making policy
4. Work in the open – transparency of decisions and work
5. Innovate and adapt to change and the demands of citizens
6. Always identify opportunities, take risks

Our strategy - principles

1. Promoting agile methodologies and constant innovation
2. Engaging with other services and organisations, joint working
3. Seek involvement from **all** voices - internal and external
4. Accessibility, inclusion, and users underpinning the whole process
5. Digital is the tool, not the aim

What is ODP (Open Digital Planning)?



ODP Ecosystem of services which respond to planning officer's needs, but more importantly to applicants and residents alike

How have we got here?

Setting up the stage for allowing an **end-to-end journey for planning applications**:

- Applicant/agent submissions through the PlanX platform
- Processing the applications through BOPS (Back Office Planning System) platform
- Publishing the information on the Digital Planning Register (DPR) platform

PlanX and BOPS – earlier in the year we had a strong collective effort to allow all types of planning applications to be processed (Full Planning applications, Householder, Prior Approval, etc)

DSN (Digital Site Notice)

- Already a live service in Camden, only for major developments - Beta testing in Camden, Lambeth and Gateshead

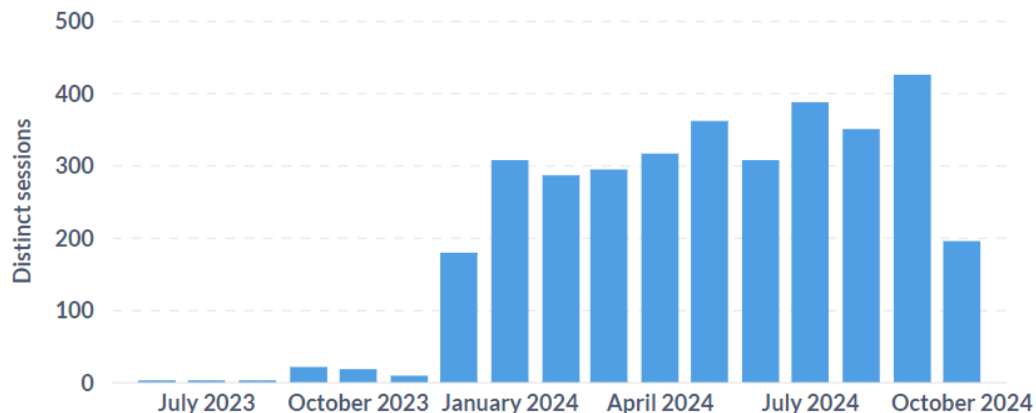
DPR (Digital Planning Register)

- Established minimum legal requirements, and start prototyping an MVP (Minimum Viable Product) to expand the DSN to a legally compliant Planning Register

Plan X – Find Out If You Need Planning Permission (FOIYNPP)

- Soft launch December '23
- Enables people to find out whether any development they propose would require planning permission or not
- Gradual increase in usage since launch
- Since introducing the service, we have seen a **60% reduction in planning duty calls**

Number of people starting services (by month)



Now

PlanX – GOVpay integrations - we can accept planning applications submissions and payments through PlanX

ODP Pre-app service

- Based on a PlanX flow, we are working with Strategy and Change to develop a new preapplication service
- We are building a product which can be used by LPAs part of wider ODP community
- BOPS – working with delivery team to create the full user journey, including setting up templates to improve turnaround

Digital Planning Register (DPR) – This is a Camden led product. An “MVP” delivered to be rolled out to Barnet, Lambeth, Medway, Bucks as part of the End-to-End testing Pilot.

Building on Digital Site Notice - Developing new designs to be tested for use in a Physical Site Notice.

Setting up Pilot End-to-End testing on Householder planning apps underway

- Capture baseline data, such as time recording, on processing planning applications using current systems so we can compare it with the new systems
- Mid NOV – starting getting application submitted, assessed and published in the new systems
- Set-up google analytics to understand demographic engagement in planning

Engaging with GLA to expand ODP services to all London Boroughs, particularly PlanX and the Camden DPR/DSN

Digital Planning Register

Details Page for Planning Application - 2021/4370/P

Site Address 50 King Henry's Road London NW3 3RP

Documents for this application

[View drawings, comments and other documents for this application](#)

Application Progress Summary

The statutory requirement for consultation on planning application form is linked to the statutory time period and will close after the

If the online comments form has closed, you can still comment on the application

We will take account of all representations received right up to the end of the

Please note that if the **Comments Until** date shown is before the **Application Registered** date, we are not required to consult on the application (you can see this in the [Statement of Community Involvement](#)); or if the formal consultation period has not yet started by the local newspaper or site notice(s) being put up at the application site.

Application Registered 19-10-2021

Comments Until 15-11-2021

Date of Committee

Decision Granted 30-09-2024

Annual Local Plan

Camden Digital Planning Register

Camden [Application search](#) [Understanding planning](#)

Beta This is a new service. Help us improve it and [give your feedback \(opens in new tab\)](#).

Search by application reference, address or description

Application Reference	Address	Description
24-00129-HAPP	9, STEELE'S ROAD, LONDON, NW3 4SE	Replacement of existing lower ground floor rear extension timber French doors at rear; alterations to lower ground floor fenestration; installation of dormer on rear roof slope.

Application Type Planning Permission

Status Determined

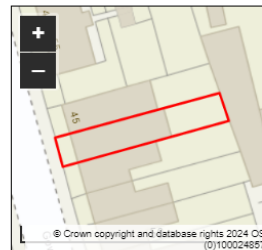
Received Date 02 May 2024

Published Date 02 May 2024

Consultation End Date 07 May 2024

Decision Date 10 May 2024

Name of the site



Application Reference

24-00609-HAPP

Address

35 Gowlett Street, SE15 4HX

Application Type

Planning permission **i**

Status

Determined **i**

Decision

Granted **i**

Contents

- Key information
- Progress
- Description
- Images
- Impact
- Documents
- People
- Constraints
- Specialist comments
- Public comments

Progress

- Received on 3 Mar 2024 [Show more info](#)
- Valid from 3 Mar 2024 [Show more info](#)
- Published on 3 Mar 2024 [Show more info](#)
- Consultation ended on 26 Mar 2024 [Show more info](#)
- Decision made on 28 Mar 2024 [Show more info](#)

[View decision notice](#)

How do you feel about this development?



Opposed



Neutral

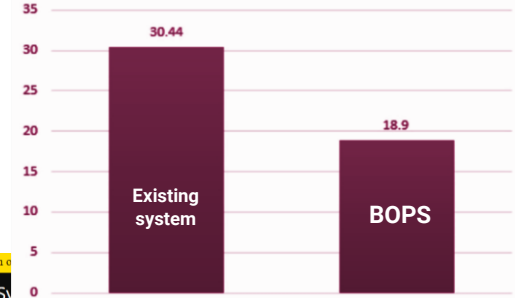


Support

[Continue](#)

Back Office Planning System (BOPS)

- Lambeth's early results show an average 38% time reduction in validations
- Exceeds the 20% target
- MVP for appeals and enforcement cases by March 2025
- Currently exploring functionality for BNG (Biodiversity Net Gain)
- Continuous testing and user journey improvements



This is staging. Only process test cases on this version of the system.
Camden Back-office Planning System

Beta This is a new service – your feedback will help us to improve it.

Above: Average time to validate an application (minutes)

Your planning applications

Camden Officer, Case Officer

[Add new application](#)

[View all applications](#)

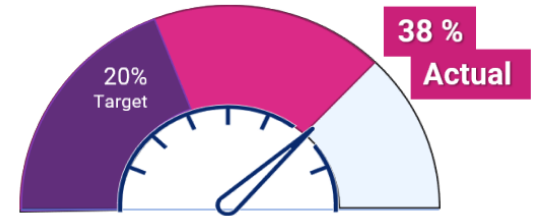
Status update:

[Reviewer requests](#)

[0 applications](#)

Not started

[4 prior applications](#)



Digital Site Notice (DSN)

- Digital-twin of physical notice
- Three rounds of funding from DLUHC (MHCLH)
- First phase - research and prototypes
- Second phase produced a working product (MVP)
- Current developed further and integrated within DPR
- Shows the impacts of a scheme and collects structured feedback
- User testing focused on under-represented groups

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How could this impact you?

Any new development in your local area will have an effect on your community.

We've outlined some of the ways we think this development would impact your community, so that you can give us feedback on what's important for us to consider when we're deciding what to give planning permission for.

New homes



80 new homes

35% affordable housing

► [How did we calculate this?](#)

Open spaces



1200 square metres

► [How did we calculate this?](#)

New jobs



45-100 new roles

► [How did we calculate this?](#)

Carbon emissions



66% less than minimum requirements

► [How did we calculate this?](#)

Pedestrian and vehicle access



Two access points from Finchley Road to the east. One access point from Blackburn Road to the west.

Future of DSN?

Estimated jobs provided by businesses operating on site

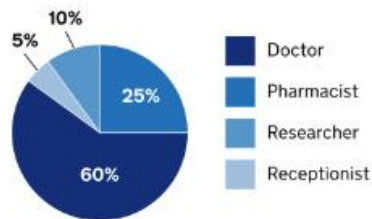
Amount of jobs



+120 jobs



Job types



[How did we calculate this?](#)

Estimated changes in light in adjacent buildings

Details:

Written info on how light will affect surrounding areas, eg, less sunlight.

Range:

Buildings within

+100 FT east be affected

+50 FT south be affected

[How did we calculate this?](#)



How would this affect me?

Enter an address below to see impact on map

Estimated noise levels due to construction

Noise levels and radius

80dB at 100ft from the site

[What are decibels \(dB\)?](#)



How would this affect me?

Enter an address below to see impact on map

Waste and recycling



No changes to waste and recycling resources

Energy usage

Renewable energy

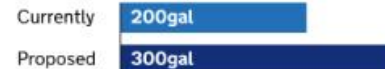


+5 New solar panels

Water usage



+100 Gallons of water used per day in building

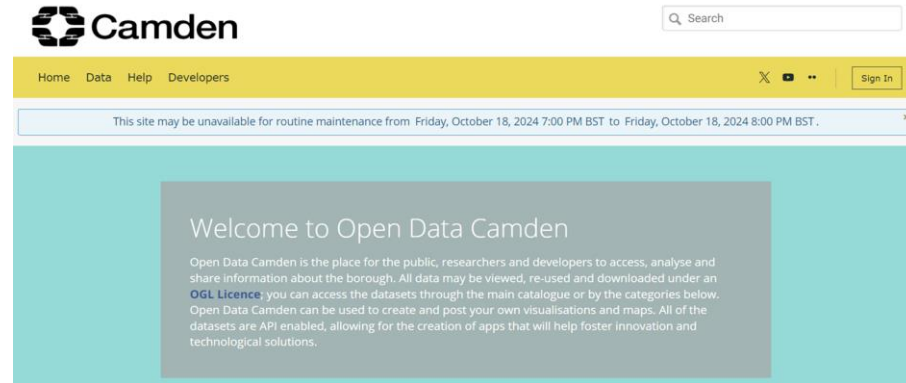


Next - April 2025 – Jan 2026

- **Pilot** – outcomes of the End-to-End testing on all new services across the four LPAs
- **GLA on board on ODP** and other London Boroughs starting to use services
- New **PlanX** services - Report a planning breach, advanced pre-app services
- **BOPS and DPR** – enable search planning history for sites
- Discussing **commercialisation options** to support ongoing product development and establish ongoing commitment to ODP community and future funding options
- Current Back-office planning system (Northgate M3) potentially functional until April 2025

Data Standards

- Camden only authority with open data which enabled quick delivery of ODP services
- Camden working directly with MHCLG data team to help inform national data standards architecture
- Potential for some mandated data standards next year
- Working with GLA to encourage other London Councils to join ODP
- Other regional ODP areas being considered



Links

- Open Data Camden - <https://opendata.camden.gov.uk/>
- Digital Land - <https://digital-land.github.io/>
- Data specifications - <https://www.planning.data.gov.uk/guidance/specifications/>
- Digital site notices - <https://www.localdigital.gov.uk/funded-project/place-based-engagement/>
- PlanX - <https://www.planx.uk/>
- FOIYNPP - <https://editor.planx.dev/camden/find-out-if-you-need-planning-permission/preview>
- BOPS - <https://www.localdigital.gov.uk/funded-project/back-office-planning-system/>
- ODP - <https://opendigitalplanning.org/>