

Planning & Environment Survey

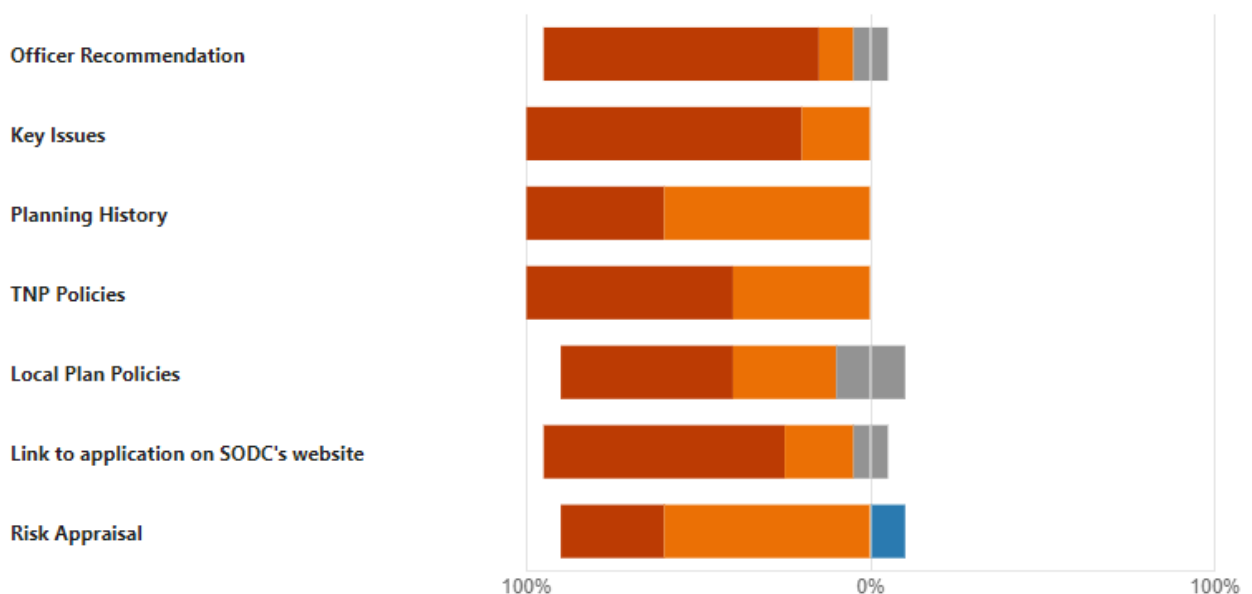
1. How frequently do you think P&E should meet from May 2024?

Since September 2023, P&E has been meeting 4-5 weekly. Previously it was 3-weekly. The approved schedule up to May 2024 is 4-weekly.



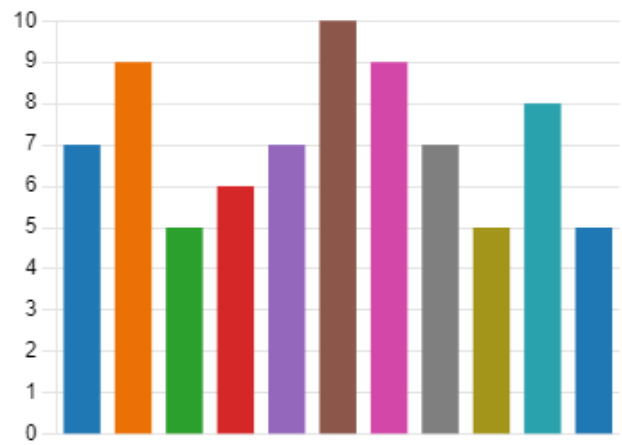
2. Which aspects of the officer report do you find helpful?

■ Very helpful ■ Somewhat helpful ■ Not very helpful ■ Not helpful ■ I don't access / read this part of the report



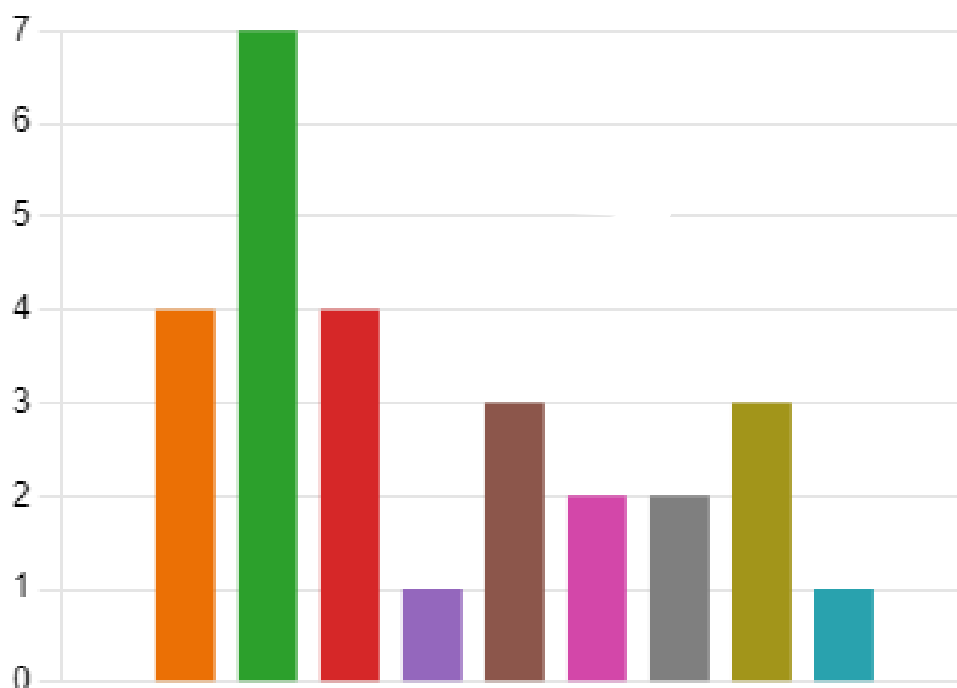
3. Which types of applications do you find Officer reports useful for? (tick all that apply)

- Householder applications (HH... 7
- Listed building applications (L... 9
- Advertisement consent (A) - si... 5
- Outline applications (O) - an o... 6
- Reserved Matters (RM) - follo... 7
- Major full applications (FUL) -... 10
- Minor full applications (FUL) -... 9
- Change of use applications (F... 7
- Variation of conditions (S73) -... 5
- Minerals and waste applicatio... 8
- Amended plans - a report is pr... 5



4. Which types of applications (if any) do you think could be delegated to Officers?

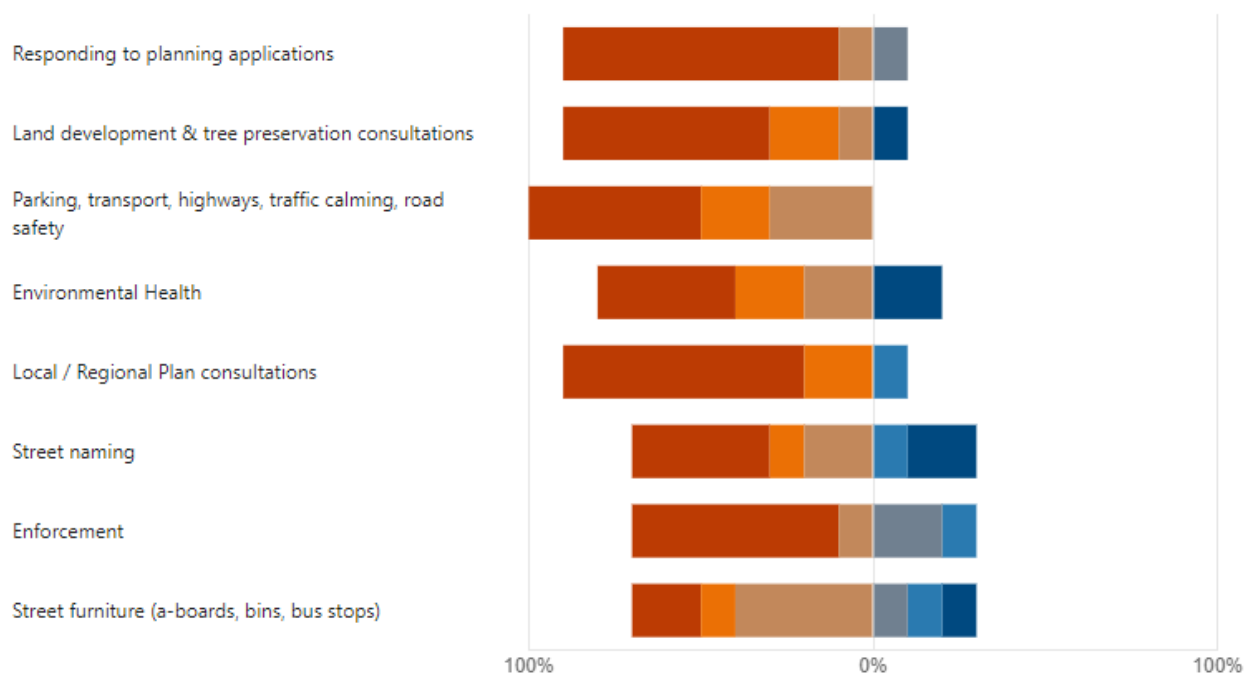
(tick all that apply)



	None - all applications should be handled by a committee or Full Council
	Any application where Officer's consider the application to be in conformance with the adopted Neighbourhood Plan policies / evidence base.
	Any application where the Officer recommendation is to support the application and the application is not considered to be contentious.
	Any application not considered to be contentious, where the number of applications on agenda exceeds an agreed number (e.g. 15) in order to manage the length of meetings.
	Any application at the Officer's discretion
	Applications not 'called in' by a TTC Councillor (i.e. if P&E operated on a call-in basis such that applications are only considered by the committee where a Cllr has called it in)
	Applications of a certain size / scale (such as any application for 1 or more new dwellings)
	Any application where the consultation period cannot be extended to after the P&E meeting.
	All amendments, where P&E/Full Council have considered and made a recommendation on the original application.
	Unsure
	Other

5. Based on P&E's current functions, please indicate where you think these functions should sit.

■ P&E Committee
 ■ A different committee
 ■ A Working Group (new or existing)
 ■ Officers
■ Handled via email in discussion with Chair / Deputy of P&E
 ■ Unsure / No Strong Views



6. Do you think Environmental / Climate / Green issues should sit with the Planning & Environment Committee?

● Yes	6
● No	2
● Unsure / no preference	2



7. Do you have any thoughts on where Environmental / Climate / Green issues should sit?

- It IS called Planning and Environment so, unless we have 2 committees - Planning AND Environment, P & E should do what it says.
- On P&E where they relate to land use
- with P+E making it truly Environmental

8. **How do you access planning application documents (e.g. elevation plans, floor plans)?** *(tick all that apply)*

	Via the OneDrive (7)
	On SODC's website via the link on the P&E agenda in the OneDrive (4)
	On SODC's website via the link on the P&E agenda on the TTC website (5)
	On SODC's website via the link in the Officer report (1)
	On SODC's website directly (1)



9. **If you have additional comments on any of the above, please write them below:**

- I believe that Green Issues are taking up far too much council time.
- We should not make any changes for change sake. If the process works well keep with it.
- Would be good to have a group discussion on this following the survey.

CAAC Questions

10. **What do you think is working / has worked well about CAAC to date?**

- They do know a lot of 'stuff' about Thame and do notice things that are out of kilter with the town's history
- I write with limited experience of CAAC input. An extra check on conservation area changes seems like a good thing if there are willing participants.
- The CAAC considers the changes to Thame which will make the town a less attractive place to live in
- No previous experience to work from, but from discussions on 19Dec23 seems that CAAC is unsure of its charter and maybe needs more expertise.
- They add an option
- Do not think it has relevance as it structured today
- Since the destruction of the Girls Grammar School the preservation of our buildings have been exemplary.
- good to involve members of the community and their strengths.

11. **What do you think isn't working well about CAAC?**

- I think they are seen by some as a bit NIMBY and as a group who are anti-progress.
- Not always considered seriously by councillors, no statutory authority
- see above
- Just an opinion without full knowledge
- It seems to be a closed group of local people . They review things often already seen by P&E. They have no structure or power. Do not really review needs of the town
- The process is working very well.
- not enough expertise, comments biased by opinions rather than facts

12. Do you have any ideas for how CAAC could be improved or changed?

- Meet with P and E to give us an idea of who they are and what background informs them
 - more expertise (see above)
 - They could be more positive and here an awards program for good conservation projects
 - if it is to continue - that is the first question, it should have a proper committee structure with elected members and fixed time lines for being on the team. It should also encourage people with relevant skills.
 - We need to market the importance of the committee.
 - encourage local expertise to join the committee. Bring TOR in line with TTC working groups
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13. Do you have any thoughts on CAAC's membership?

- Cllr Bains suggested we should get more accredited professionals who have building / architecture / planning skills on it. Fine in theory but getting people to step up to do it will be a challenge
 - Would be good to have history, architect background as well as local residents
 - need more expertise (see comment above)
 - Historical interests , architects, transport, financial, planning, building, term 4 years to run in conjunction with councillors
 - Not really, individuals who are interested in preserving the cultural identity of Thame are welcome.
 - Refresh membership, wider age range and expertise
 - Need to have people with appropriate knowledge and skills to make an effective contribution.
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14. What relationship do you think CAAC should have with TTC?



CAAC should be completely independent from TTC (1)
CAAC should continue as an advisory committee - giving TTC advice on issues affecting the Conservation Area. TTC to continue providing room/facilities as needed for their meetings. (6)
CAAC should be a formal sub-committee / working group of the council and contain TTC Cllr(s) in its membership (2)
Other (0)

15. Please add any final thoughts about CAAC in the box below.

- I think they can provide valuable insight into goings on in the town and are a useful set of eyes to stop developers and businesses trying to undermine Thame's heritage and history. When it's gone it's gone.
- CAAC may be taken more notice of if council had more contact and insight. From them personally
- Cannot see why CAAC exists if we have P&E? as they are just carrying out the same function
- To date the committee have given us a broad spectrum of independent expertise. It would be helpful if they can identify future potential sites. Working with council working group.
- CAAC could either be either be sub committee or advisory committee, pros and cons to both
- Would be good to have a group discussion on this following the survey.