We'll be starting soon

Overview and Scrutiny Committee
15th June 2023







Councillor Mike Smith In the Chair



Item 1 –
Appointment of ViceChairman/Chairmen





Item 2 – Minutes





Overview and Scrutiny Committee 15th June 2023

Item 3 –
Register Providers Task and Finish
Group - Annual Report 2022/23



OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

REGISTERED PROVIDERS REVIEW GROUP - REPORT

Providers reviewed 2022/23

Southern Housing Group – 19th October 2022

Grainger Trust – 17th November 2022

Vivid Homes – 19th January 2023

Southern Housing Group Review

- Stock (including stock transfer of 183 units from L&Q)
- 218 General Needs, 27 Supported Housing, 52 Shared Ownership, 2 Leasehold

Key Points

- Hardship Fund available for ongoing or one-off assistance for residents; with a planned budget of £250,000 for 2023/24
- Rent Management system which highlights to staff if residents are starting to get into arrears, which then prompts the team to offer support with budgeting, debt management and accessing benefits and grants.
- 93% of emergency repairs completed within target; service impacted by labour and material shortages.
- For the transferred L&Q properties a Stock Condition report was produced, and properties will be added into their planned maintenance programme which will prioritise urgent repairs.
- Anti-Social Behaviour complaints are triaged dependant on level of risk; budget available to provide improvements to properties where there are environmental causes of ASB.

Grainger Housing Trust Review

Stock

226 Affordable Rent, 138 Shared Ownership

Key Points

- Approach to Damp and Mould, Grainger do not have a policy on damp and mould but are aware of the potential
 issues with new build properties and therefore ensure residents are aware of what they need to do to keep their
 property well ventilated. They may implement a policy due to the high profile of damp and mould management.
- Further 821 properties in the (unsecured) development pipeline. Properties will be allocated in line with the local lettings plan.
- Rent arrears have been rising in line with inflationary pressures. Grainger have invested in support services to help when residents fall into difficulty. Rent increases are 7% for affordable and 9% for shared owners for 2023/24. Possibility of increases in service charges once current contracts expire.
- Plans for a permanent play area will be submitted in 2023 and plans are being drawn up for a permanent community centre.

Vivid Homes Review

Stock

 4,353 General Needs, 280 Housing for older persons, 32 Supported Housing, 621 leasehold, 252 Shared Ownership, 21 other social and non-social properties.

Key Points

- Rent increases for all tenures was expected to be at the rent cap level of 7%
- In order to meet the updated Fire Regulations essential works will need to be carried out across their stock portfolio.
- Their specialist Damp and Mould team is planned to be expanded in 2023/24, and they will continue to use specialist contractors where required.
- Vivid acknowledge that their repairs service has not been performing well for all residents. They plan to increase staffing levels in 2023/24 and are aiming to have all backlogged repairs completed by September 2023 after which they will set a repairs completion target for every job raised within 2 weeks of date of issue.
- Decarbonisation Fund to improve 550 properties across their stock portfolio, of which the majority are in Farnborough. They will provide a list of affected addresses once project team is established (Prospect Estate)

Addition to Annual Review

Propose to invite Vivo/Pinnacle (property/repairs management for MOD Properties) to review every year due to size of stock portfolio and concerns around their condition, highlighted by Members.



Item 4 – Customer Services Contact Indicators – Update



Overviell and Scrutiny Customer Services

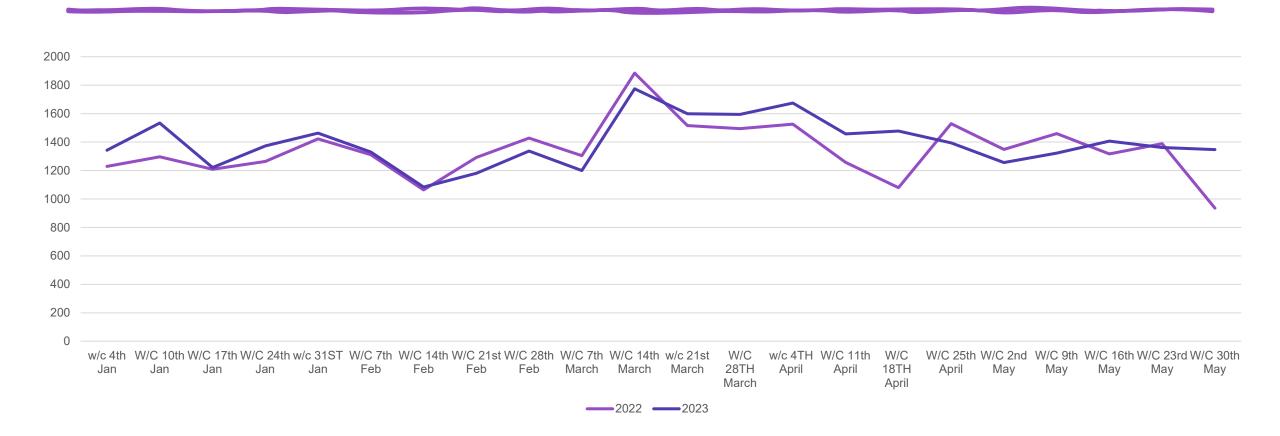
Agenda

What's been happening

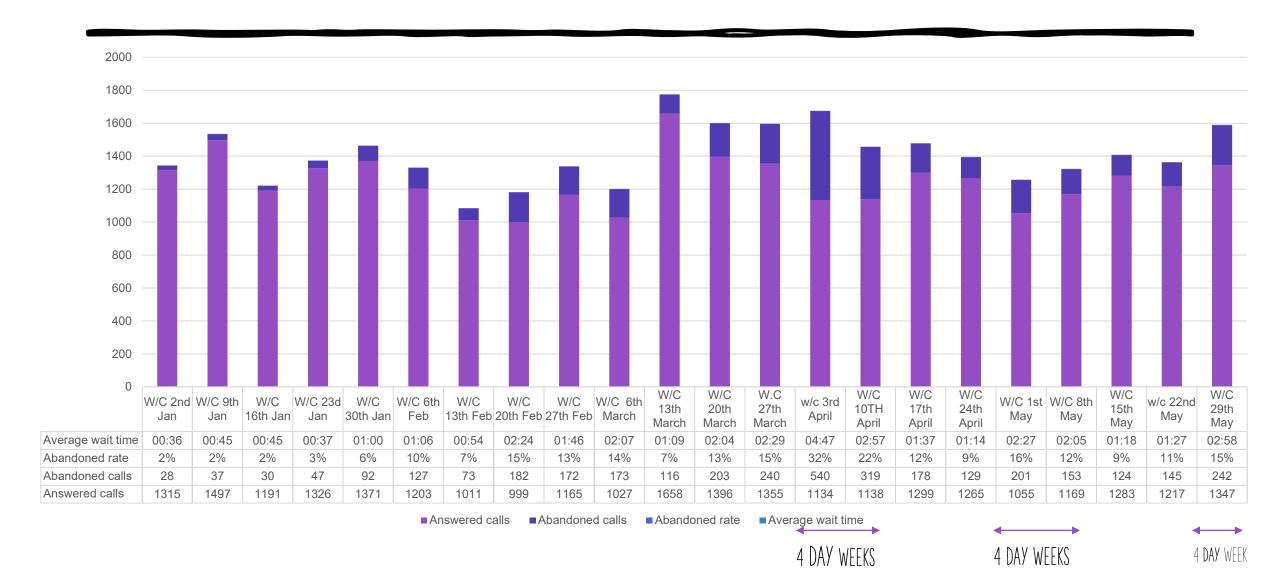
- Customer Insight
- New contact centre phones / emails / webforms all go through - enabling us to record info against customer/ previous contacts
- Customer feedback
- Reception
- Questions / comments

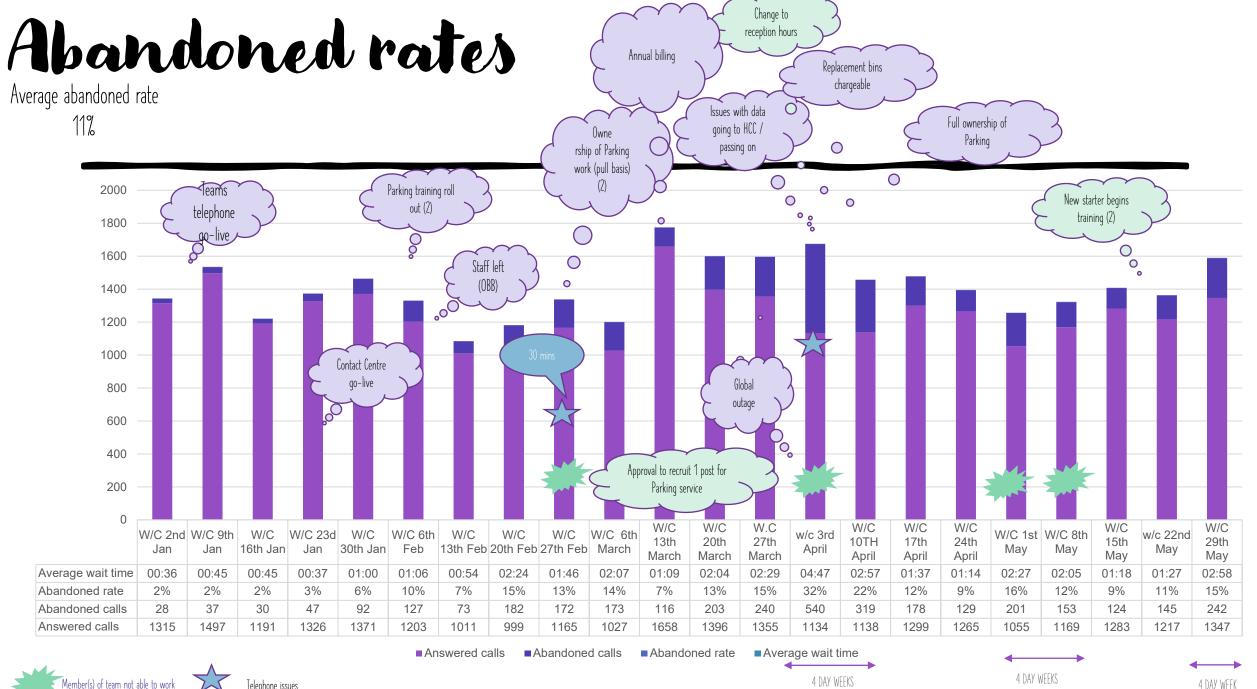


Customer Insight – Call volumes



Abandoned rates

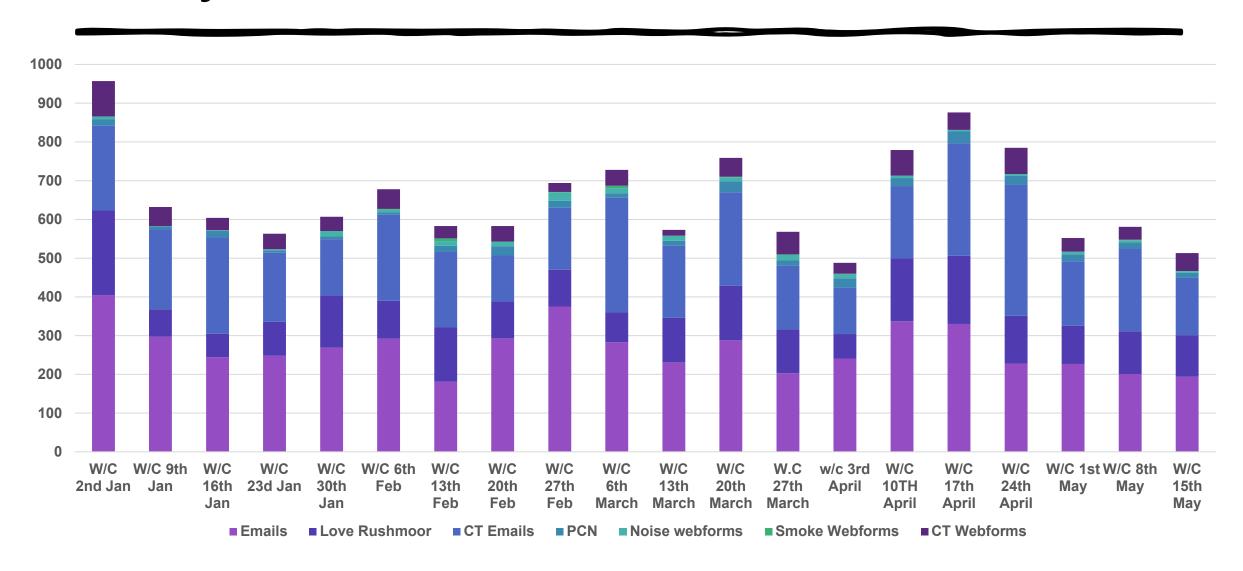






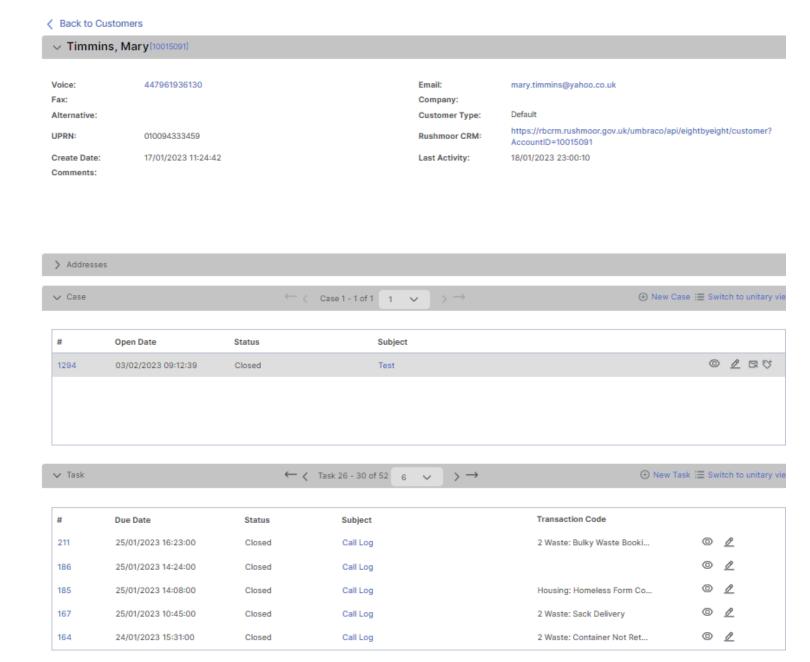


Not just a call centre

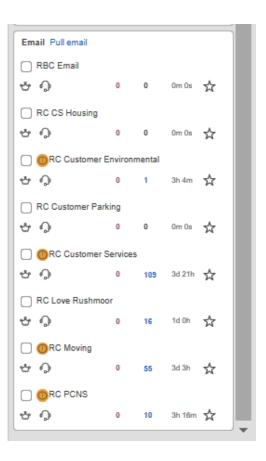


New Contact Centre Solution (8x8)

 Creating a customer database that allows us to keep track of previous contacts by residents. (when and for what reason)

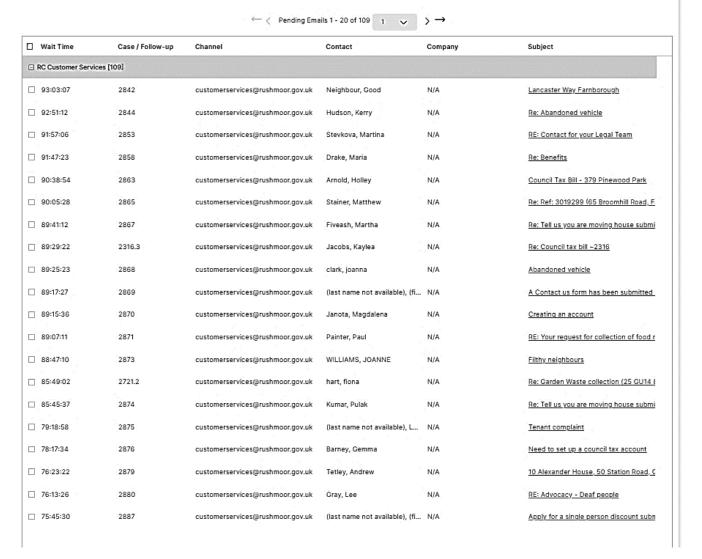


Emails / Websorms / Work queues



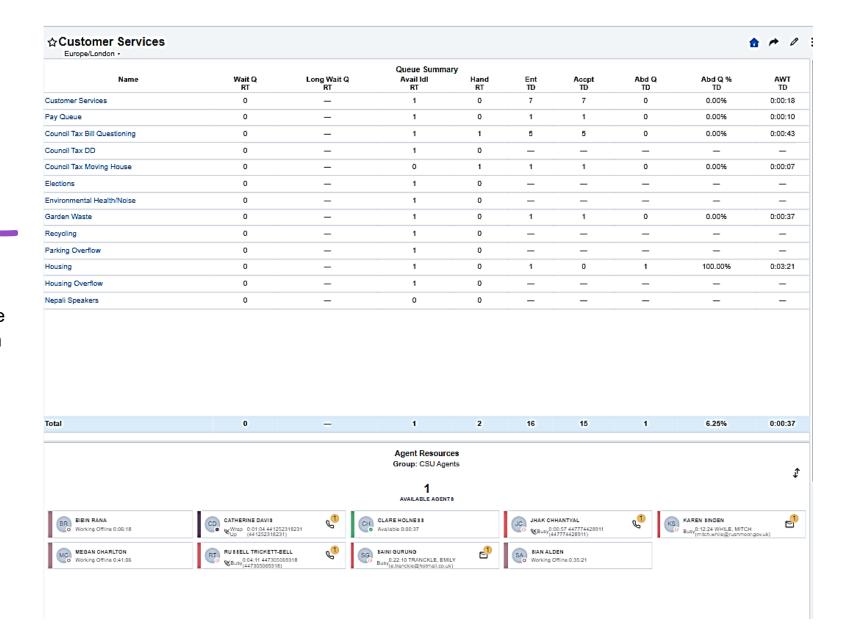
 All digital pieces of work come through the system, allowing us to look at customer behavior and response times.

Pending Emails



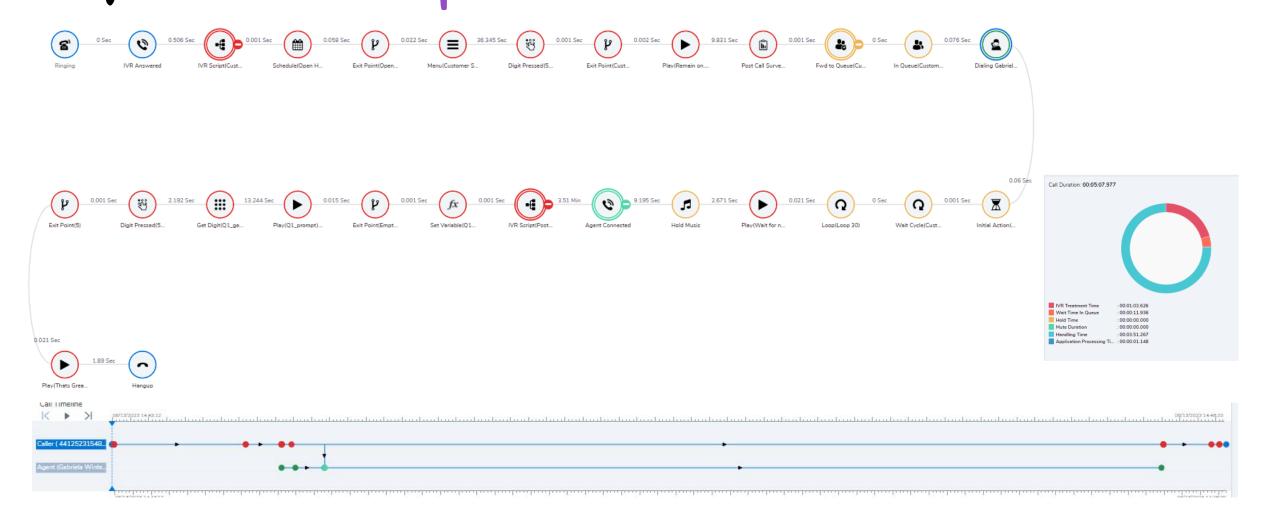
Reporting

 Real time information available to the team and managers – enabling them to make decisions about the work.



Reporting -Customer Experience

• Ability to track customer journeys from entering the options on the phone to ending the call.



Customer feedback

By not fining people for dropping rubbish, your fine person was hiding behind a pole,

- n was hiding d a pole,
- At the start of a call customers are offered the opportunity to leave feedback after a phone call, by remaining on the line.
- Customers are asked to rate the service between 1 5.
 If score between 1 4 they are asked to provide a comment to say what we can do to make it a 5.
- Customers may leave feedback on the outcome, which they may be unhappy with rather than the service.
- 20,701 customers have been given the option to leave feedback. 188 have completed the process.
- Look to improve take up of the survey and move to more lines.

I had to listen to a load of irrelevant information, if I could just go straight through to someone.
Other than that, it was perfect - thank you

Picked my dust bin up Friday, which was out Thursday night.

13%

20%

7%

27%

Reception 9am – 2pm

To remind ourselves of what these were:

- From 1st April new opening times for 'walk-in' customers: 9am – 2pm
- Council open around these hours to see customers by appointment (8:30 – 5pm Mon – Thurs and 4:30pm Fri)
- Opened a Nepali speaking telephone line for residents

A few questions for us...

- What has been happening?
- What were the demands?
- Were residents able to get service?
- Have behaviors changed?

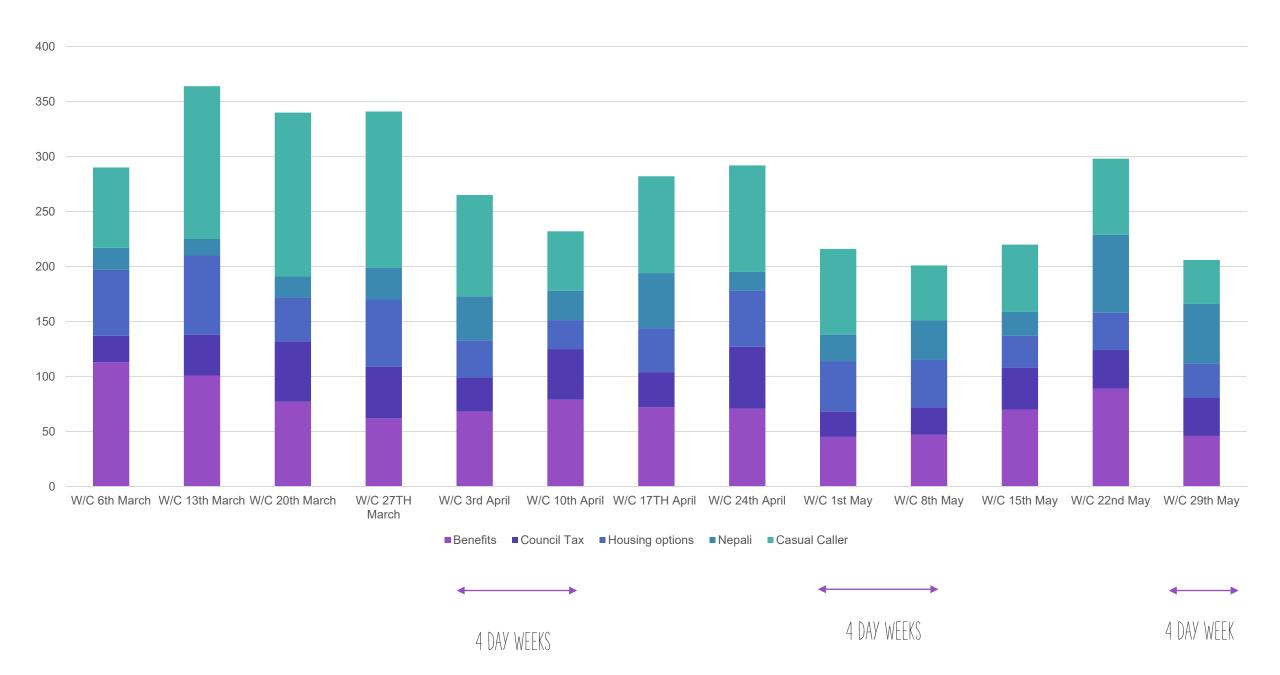




Reception 9am – 2pm

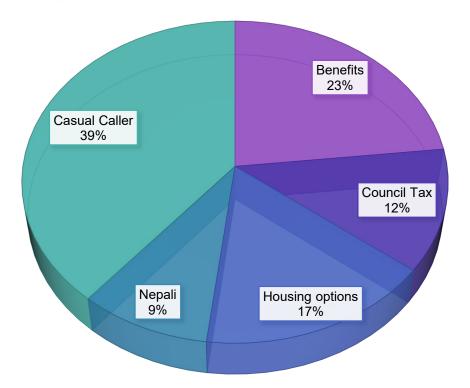


Walk in customers

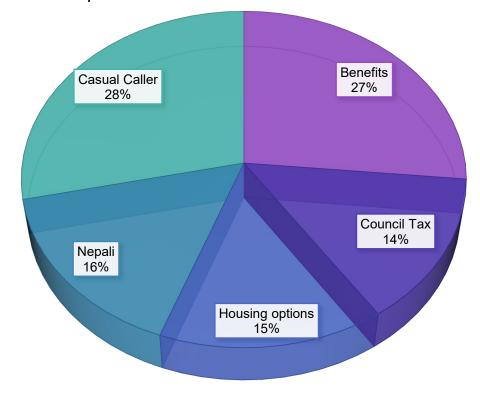


Overall demands

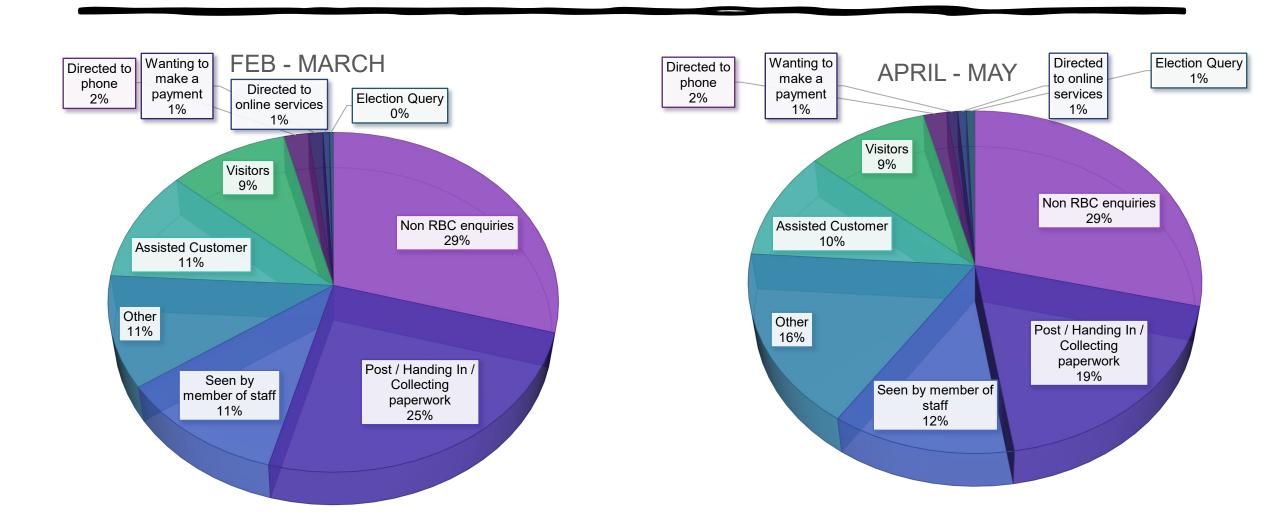
February & March



April & May



"Casual callers"



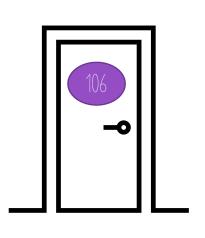
6 homeless customers in 9 weeks

We currently have a 'doorbell' at the front of the office. So, if anyone is homeless, they can press it.



A customer service officer will go to the front door to see them, on hearing the bell.

You can see from the data below. If a customer wants to see someone, they will still press it regardless. ☺



Week commencin g	Usage
3 rd April	33
10 th April	10
17 th April	11
24 th April	12
1 st May	13
^{8th} May	10
15 th May	6
22 nd May	10
29 th May	5

22 Housing customers – non urgent – redirected to phone or advised to come when open

23 Benefit customers

23 customers for HCC, RVS CAR

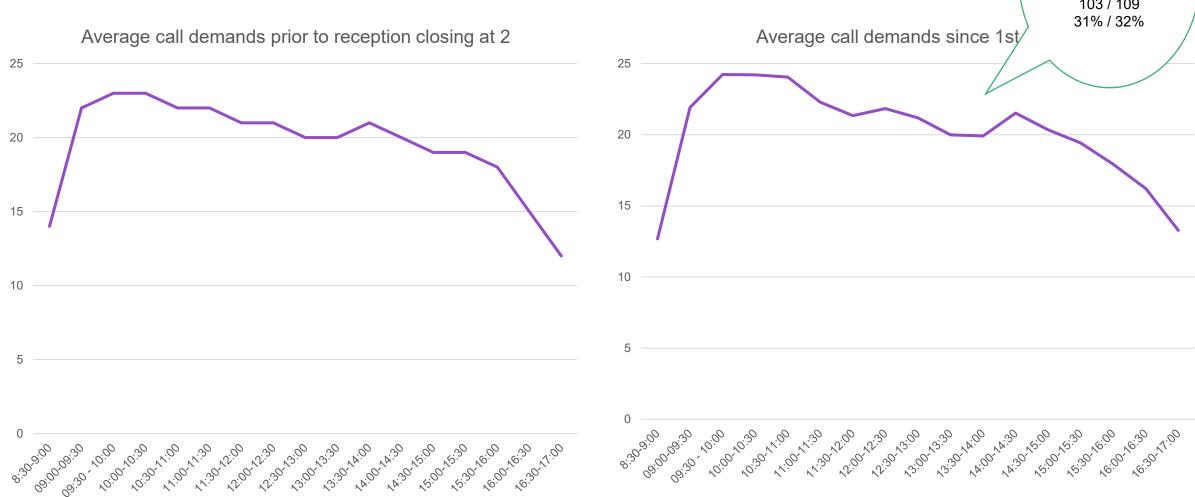
8 customers for Council tax

7 Corporate visitors

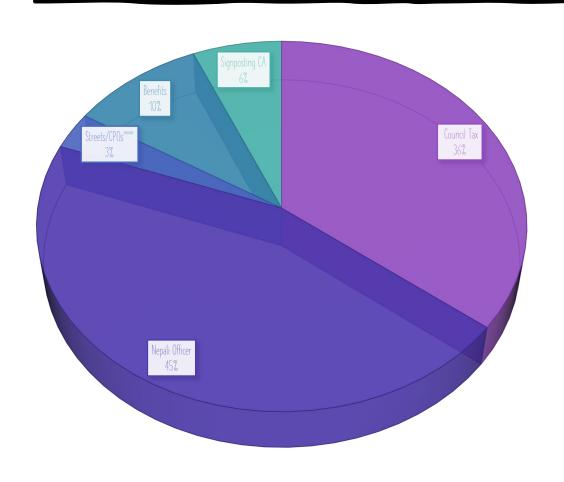
7 for licencing

Has closing at 2pm increased phone demands?

No noticeable increase in call demands after 2pm 103 / 109 31% / 32%



Nepali Line



- Dedicated Nepali line operating 8:30 5 / 4:30 5
 days a week
- Usage increasing
- Wider range of enquires coming through
- Large number of Council Tax enquiries in April



Item – Appointments 2023/24





Item 6 – Work Plan



The meeting has now finished





The meeting has paused



