
Report To:	Social Work & Social Care Scrutiny Panel	Date:	14 May 2024
Report By:	Kate Rocks Chief Officer Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership	Report No:	SWSCSP/12/2024/AB
Contact Officer:	Alan Best Interim Head of Health & Community Care	Contact No:	01475 715372
Subject:	Stock Transfer Authorities Homelessness Performance 2022/23		

1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

1.1 For Decision For Information/Noting

1.2 The purpose of this report is to advise the Social Work & Social Care Scrutiny Panel of the comparative performance of homelessness services across the six Large Scale Voluntary Transfer (LSVT) authorities in Scotland. The report will compare Inverclyde to a selection of Scottish average key performance indicators. The data, published by the Scottish Government in September 2023 was presented to Inverclyde Health and Social Care Partnership in October 2023 by Scotland's Housing Network.

1.3 During 2022/23 there was a significant increase in homeless applications across Scotland taking numbers well above pre-pandemic levels. Despite this Inverclyde has managed to achieve a 10% reduction in applications due to focussing on homelessness prevention and working to facilitate moves in a more planned way avoiding a crisis in the first place.

1.4 In 2022/23, let's to homeless households for Inverclyde Registered Social Landlords (RSL's) was 34%, with the Scottish local authority average being 49%.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Members are invited to note the content of the report which provides a data driven view to both positive achievements and note the direction of travel of the change programme.

2.2 Members are asked to note the proposed joint development of a temporary Local Lettings Initiative (LLI) to increase the percentage of allocations to homeless households across the Inverclyde RSL's which would serve to increase choice and control for households in crisis and improve tenancy sustainment figures and prevent costly repeat homelessness.

Kate Rocks, Chief Officer Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership

3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

COMPARISONS

- 3.1 In October 2023 a Service Improvement Manager from Scotland's Housing Network (SHN) delivered a presentation to Health and Social Care Partnership Officers and representatives from River Clyde Homes on comparative data relating to key performance indicators in homelessness across the six LSVT authorities and as a national average comparative also.
- 3.2 The data highlighted that 2022/23 saw a significant increase (13%) in homeless applications across Scotland, taking numbers well above pre-pandemic levels. Average length of time to close a homeless case had also increased with the Scottish average reported as 223 days.
- 3.3 Inverclyde HOHAS managed to reduce homeless applications by 10% and case duration although remained static since 2021/22 was reported to the Scottish government in 2022/23 well below the Scottish average (38 weeks) at 23 weeks.
- 3.4 Time taken to assess a case also reduced in Inverclyde from 41 days in 2020/21 to 13 days in 2022/23, a 68% reduction for households waiting on the outcome of an assessment. Households in Inverclyde spent on average 71 days in temporary accommodation compared to the Scottish average of 114 days.
- 3.5 These achievements are a result of significant improvements brought about by a change programme which implemented a service re-design focussing on homelessness prevention and providing varying intensities of support to households facing crisis. Early intervention has seen prevention activities such as mediation and negotiation increase to ensure crisis is avoided.
- 3.6 Improved communication and partnership working between HOHAS and local RSLs particularly around service redesign, homeless prevention and supporting individuals with more complex needs have resulted in better outcomes.
- 3.7 The SHN presentation also highlighted some areas of concern, repeat homelessness remains high (7%) although the figure has reduced by half since 2020/21 and is still on a downward trajectory but has still some way to go to mirror the Scottish average of 4%.
- 3.8 It has been agreed that a temporary LLI will increase the proportion of housing allocations to homeless households would return a degree of equity and improve the likelihood of achieving rapid rehousing in Inverclyde. It will also reduce the risk of the high costs of repeat homelessness and in the long-term create integrated and sustainable communities.
- 3.9 Introducing the opportunity to attain better quality allocations in areas of aspiration would introduce greater choice and control over where people want to live and would align with the delivery outcomes of the Local Housing Strategy, the HSCP Strategic Plan's Housing Contribution Statement, the RRTP and would also align with the anticipated Human Rights bill which will see decent housing as a statutory human right.

4.0 PROPOSALS

- 4.1 That the Board note active improvement activity of a proposed joint development of a temporary LLI. This will increase the percentage of housing allocations being offered to homeless households and increase the choice and control over offers of housing to ensure a human rights-based approach is being taken to the provision of adequate housing.
- 4.2 A LLI can be a useful way of taking specific local factors into account. RSL's would therefore need to consider the match between the needs of the applicant and the supply of properties to make sure they make best use of that property i.e. prevention of repeat homelessness.

- 4.3 A LLI will ensure that the strategic calculation of appropriate percentages is undertaken to agree a figure for the social housing stock across Inverclyde and broken down into individual percentages for each of the five main RSL's dependent on their proportion of the overall stock and presented as a full policy at a future committee.
- 4.4 LLI development will coincide with an independent review of Housing options which will seek to facilitate the change programme agenda by analysing homelessness demand and producing a model which will incorporate the provision of temporary accommodation in Inverclyde as well as improving choice and control over settled solutions.
- 4.5 Scotland's Housing Network will undertake this comparative approach on an annual basis following the publication of Scottish Government data on Key Performance Indicators in homelessness for 2023/24. This data is usually available in September, and it is anticipated that a further presentation will be delivered by the Service Improvement Manager to HSCP officers in October 2024. It is proposed invitations be extended to interested elected members to attend.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO
Financial		X
Legal/Risk		X
Human Resources		X
Strategic (Partnership Plan/Council Plan)		X
Equalities, Fairer Scotland Duty & Children/Young People's Rights & Wellbeing	X	
Environmental & Sustainability		X
Data Protection		X

5.2 Finance

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (if Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

5.3 Legal/Risk

There are no identified Legal/Risk issues contained within this report.

5.4 Human Resources

There are no identified Human Resource issues contained within this report.

5.5 Strategic

There are no identified Strategic risks contained within this report.

5.6 Equalities, Fairer Scotland Duty & Children/Young People

(a) Equalities

This report has been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) process with the following outcome:

	YES – Assessed as relevant and an EqIA is required.
X	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, assessed as not relevant and no EqIA is required.

(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

X	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
	NO – Assessed as not relevant under the Fairer Scotland Duty.

(c) Children and Young People

Has a Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – Assessed as relevant and a CRWIA is required.
X	NO – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve a new policy, function or strategy or recommends a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy which will have an impact on children's rights.

5.7 Environmental/Sustainability

Has a Strategic Environmental Assessment been carried out?

	YES – assessed as relevant and a Strategic Environmental Assessment is required.
X	NO – This report does not propose or seek approval for a plan, policy, programme, strategy or document which is like to have significant environmental effects, if implemented.

5.8 Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
X	NO – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.

6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 None

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 Appendix 1 - Stock Transfer Homelessness Authorities – Performance Presentation 2022/23

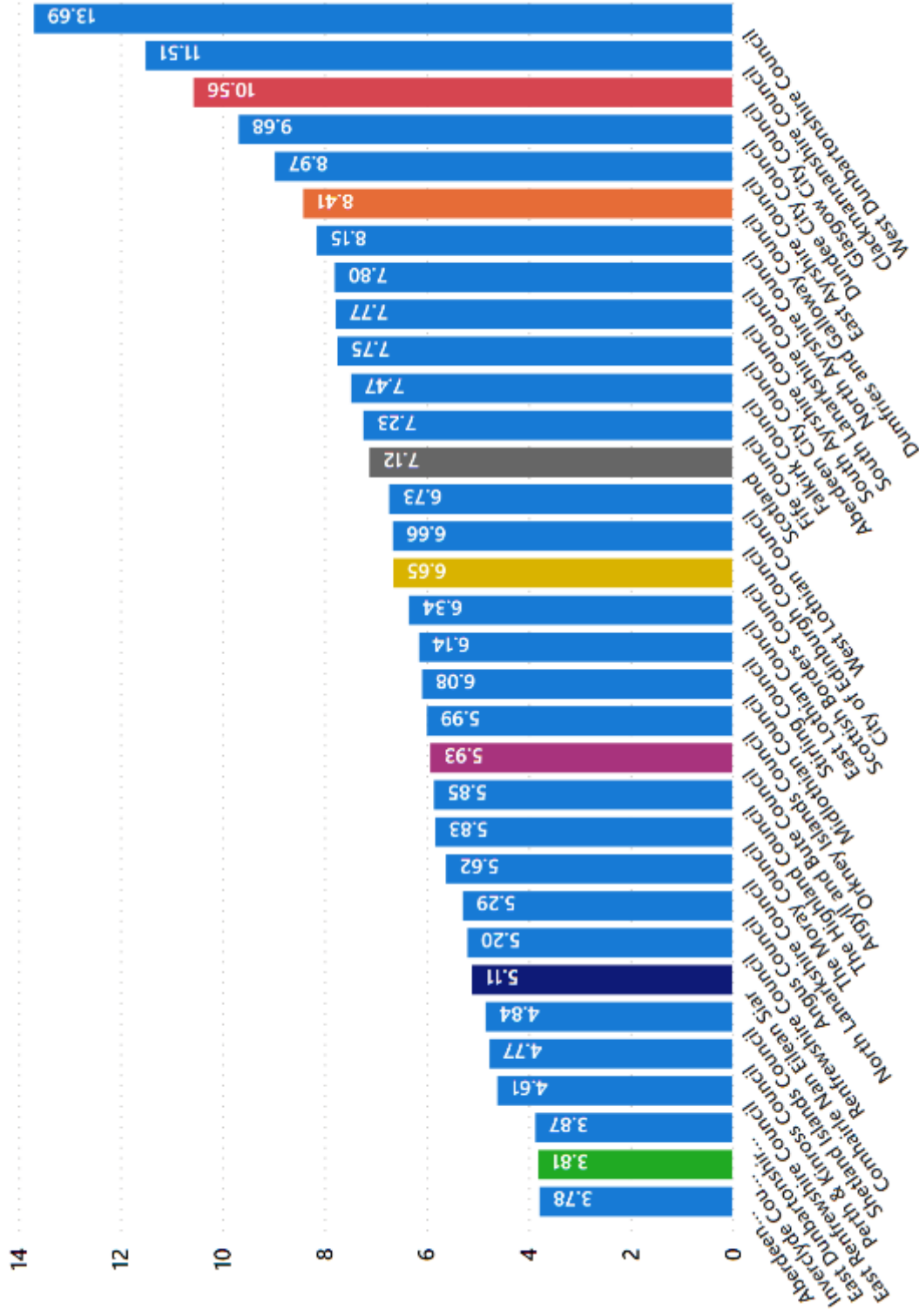
Inverclyde Council

Appendix 1

Performance Analysis Visit 2022/23
October 2023

Homeless Applications

H1 Applications per 1,000 people



H1 Applications

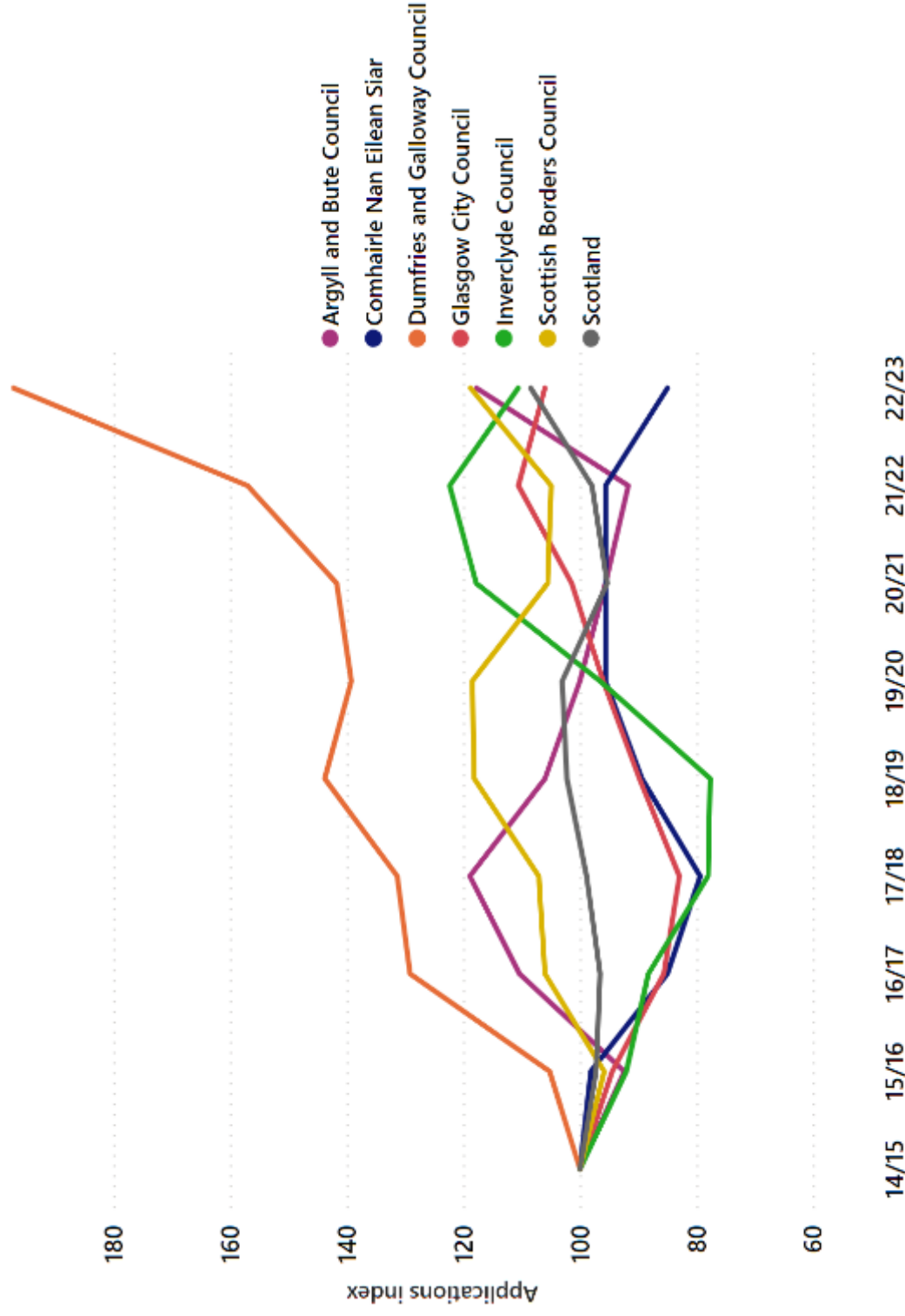
Organisation Name	20/21	21/22	22/23
Argyll and Bute Council	415	398	511
Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar	153	153	136
Dumfries and Galloway Council	900	997	1,252
Glasgow City Council	6,417	6,995	6,708
Inverclyde Council	311	323	292
Scottish Borders Council	686	682	772
Scotland	34,286	35,230	39,006

Applicants (trends)

HL1: Homelessness Applications



Presentations by year
2014/15 = 100



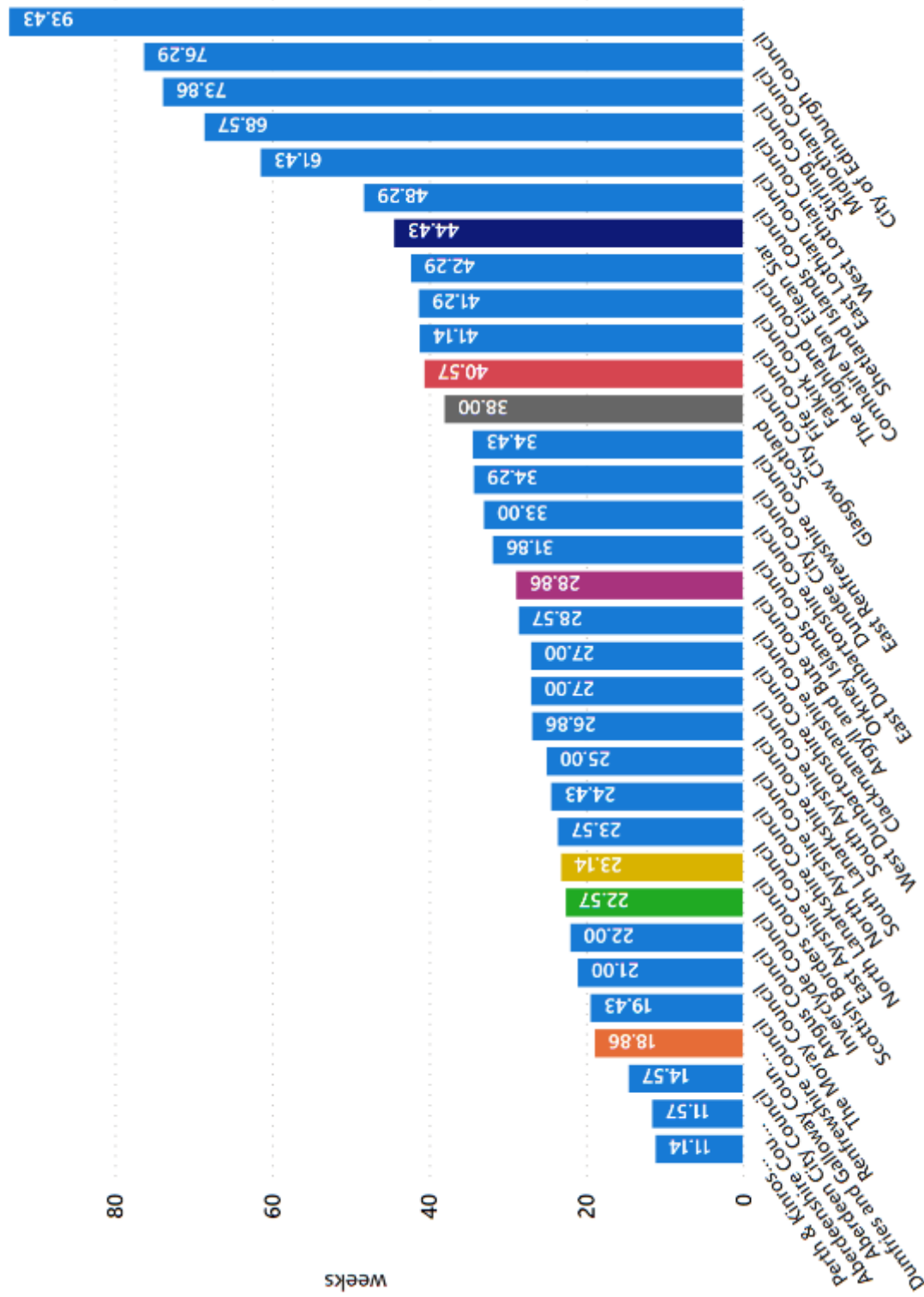
Index set at 100 for 2014/15

Organisation Name	20/21	21/22	22/23
Argyll and Bute Council	95.62	91.71	117.74
Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar	95.63	95.63	85.00
Dumfries and Galloway Council	141.73	157.01	197.17
Glasgow City Council	101.42	110.56	106.02
Inverclyde Council	117.80	122.35	110.61
Scottish Borders Council	105.54	104.92	118.77
Scotland	95.32	97.95	108.45

14/15 15/16 16/17 17/18 18/19 19/20 20/21 21/22 22/23

Weeks to close case

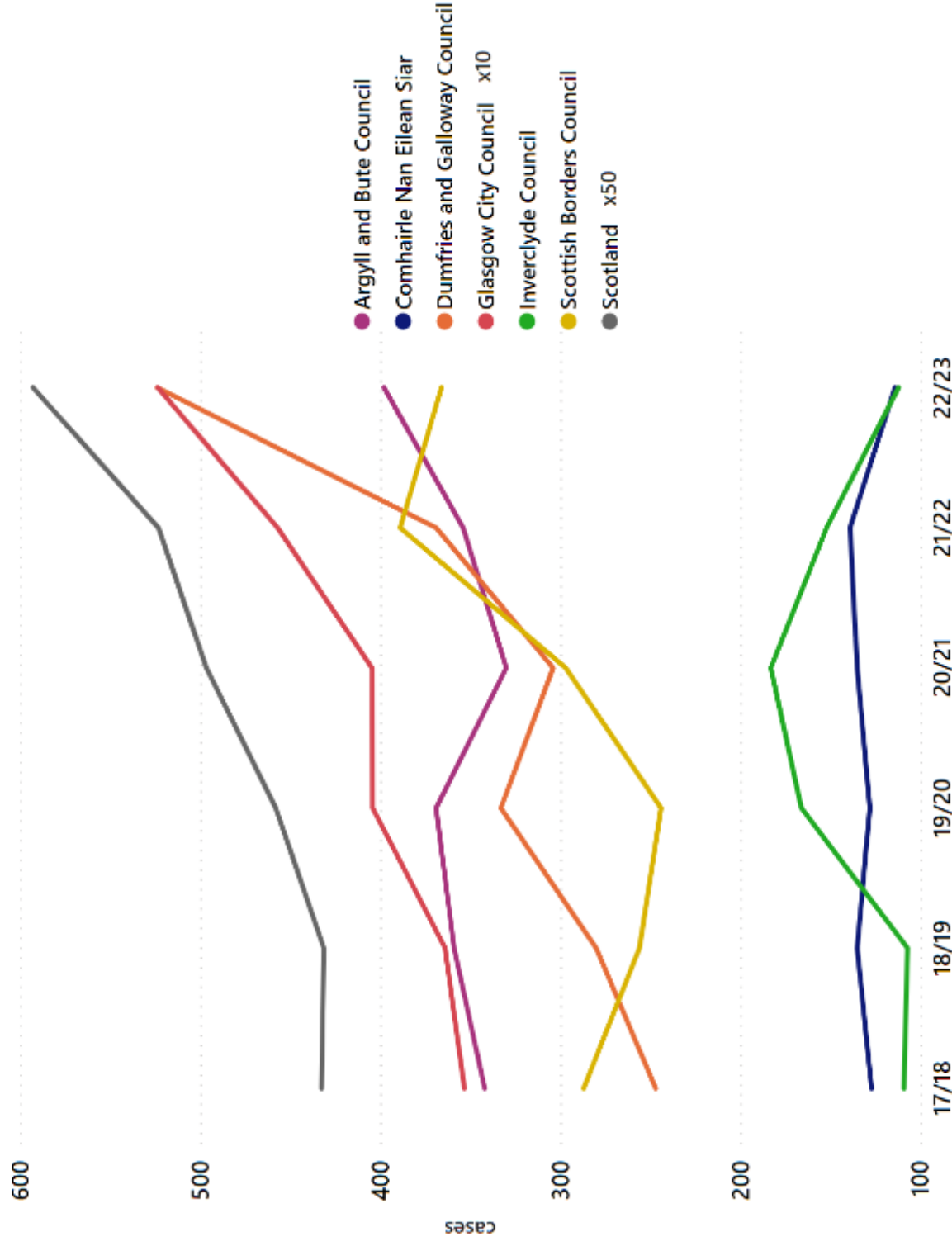
HL1: Average number of weeks to close case



Organisation Name	20/21	21/22	22/23
Argyll and Bute Council	36.00	31.00	28.86
Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar	51.43	46.43	44.43
Dumfries and Galloway Council	23.57	17.00	18.86
Glasgow City Council	38.86	34.14	40.57
Inverclyde Council	29.00	22.57	22.57
Scottish Borders Council	19.86	24.00	23.14
Scotland	36.43	36.57	38.00

Live Cases

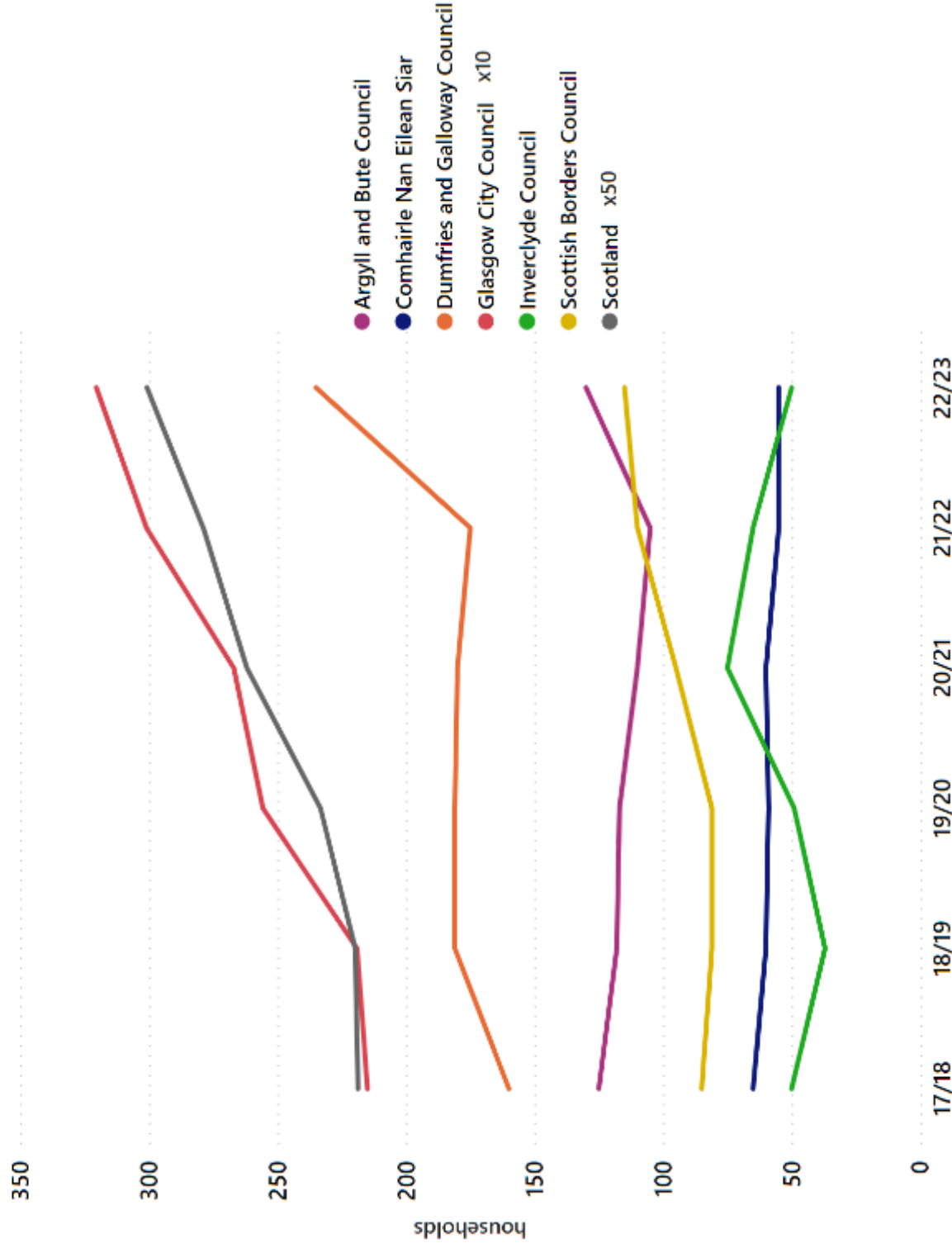
HL1 Live Cases at 31st March



Organisation Name	20/21	21/22	22/23
Argyll and Bute Council	330	354	398
Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar	135	139	114
Dumfries and Galloway Council	304	369	524
Glasgow City Council	4,047	4,571	5,237
Inverclyde Council	183	152	112
Scottish Borders Council	297	389	366
Scotland	24,834	26,166	29,652

Household in TA (trends)

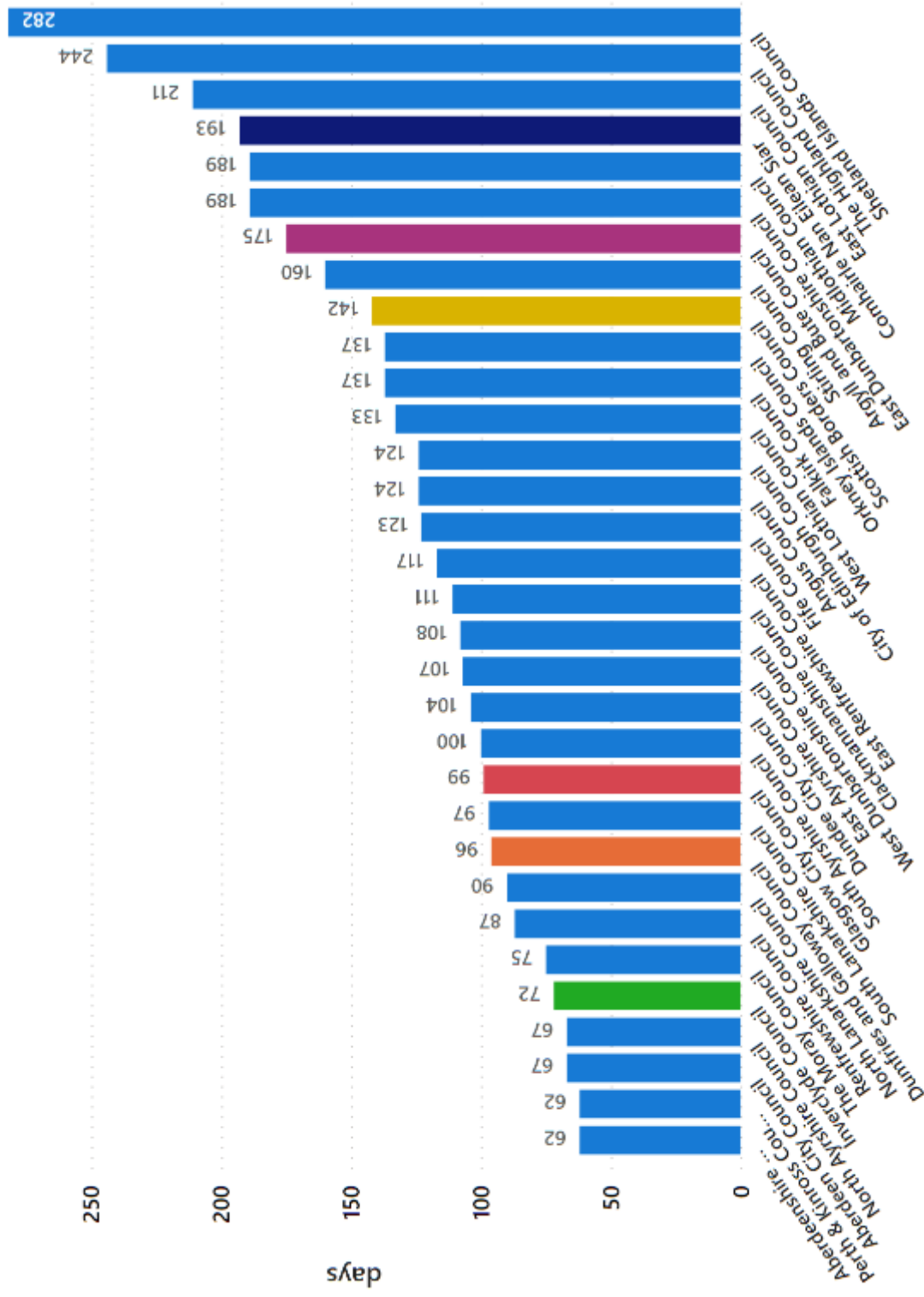
HL3 Number of households in temporary accommodation at year end



Organisation Name	20/21	21/22	22/23
Argyll and Bute Council	110	105	130
Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar	60	55	55
Dumfries and Galloway Council	180	175	235
Glasgow City Council	2,670	3,010	3,205
Inverclyde Council	75	65	50
Scottish Borders Council	95	110	115
Scotland	13,095	13,945	15,040

Average duration of TA Placement

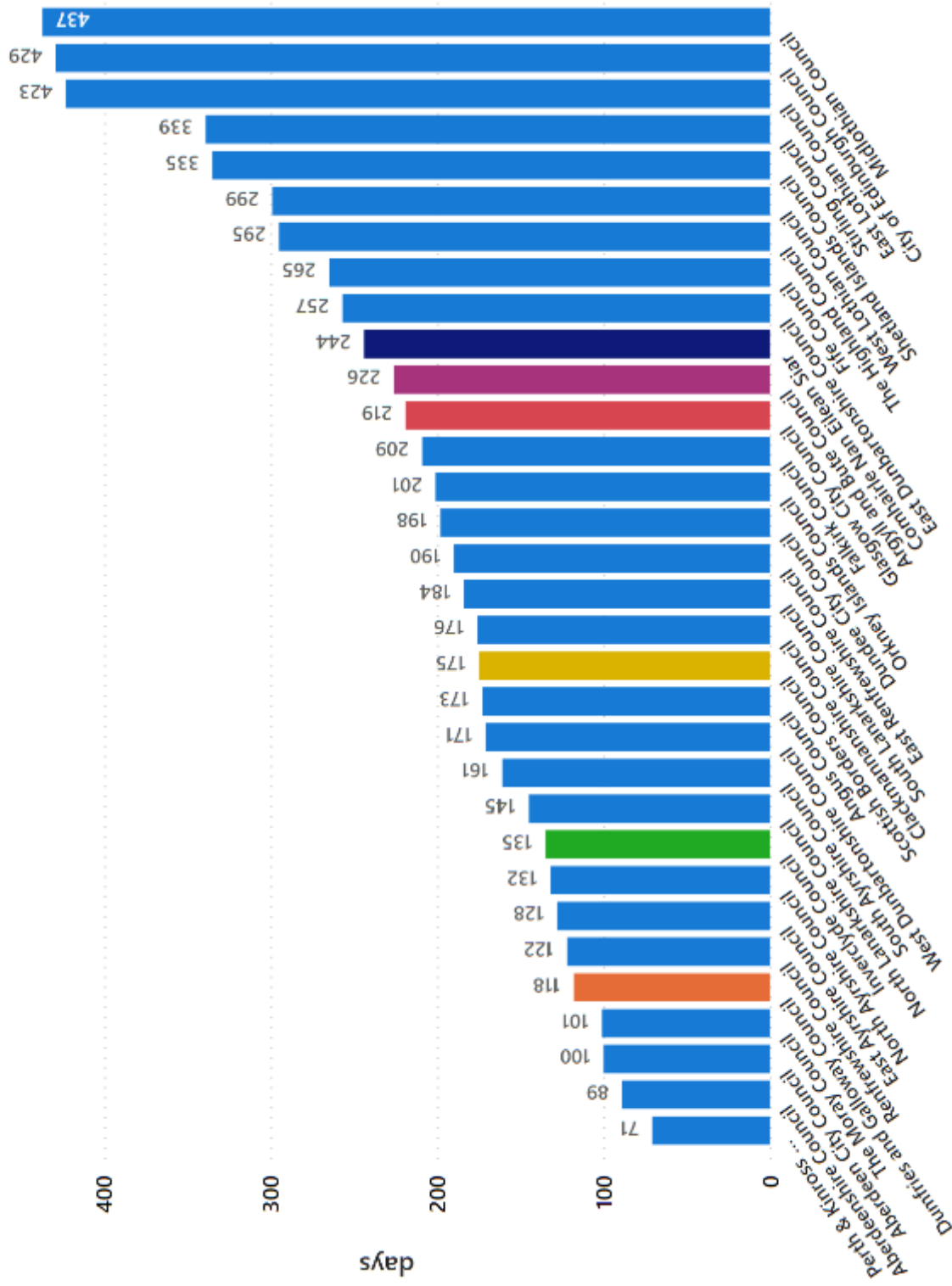
H15 Average duration by type -
all



Organisation Name	20/21	21/22	22/23
Argyll and Bute Council	176	154	175
Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar	200	212	193
Dumfries and Galloway Council	106	97	96
Glasgow City Council	105	95	99
Inverclyde Council	69	79	72
Scottish Borders Council	121	145	142
Scotland	106	107	114

Length of Stay in TA

HL3 Average total time spent in TA for entire placement - cases that closed



Organisation Name	20/21	21/22	22/23
Argyll and Bute Council	245	202	226
Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar	326	297	244
Dumfries and Galloway Council	131	109	118
Glasgow City Council	225	196	219
Inverclyde Council	119	138	135
Scottish Borders Council	135	165	175
Scotland	204	207	223

Lets to Homeless Households

C2 The percentage of lets to applicants that have been assessed as statutorily homeless.

