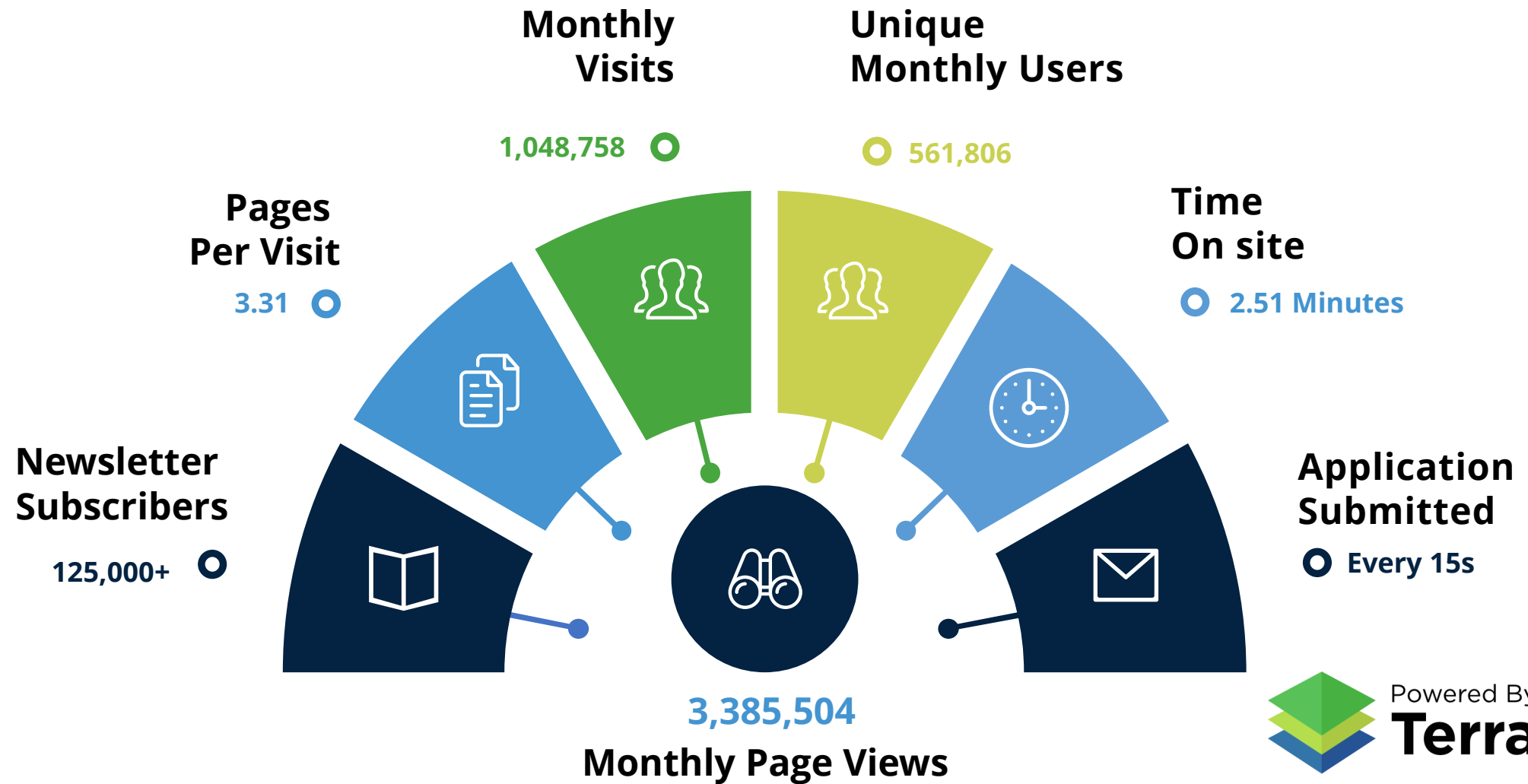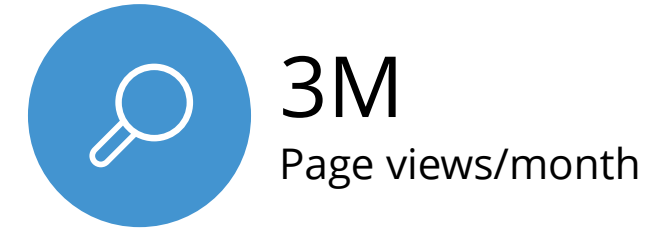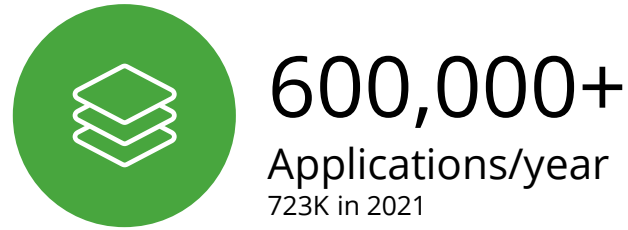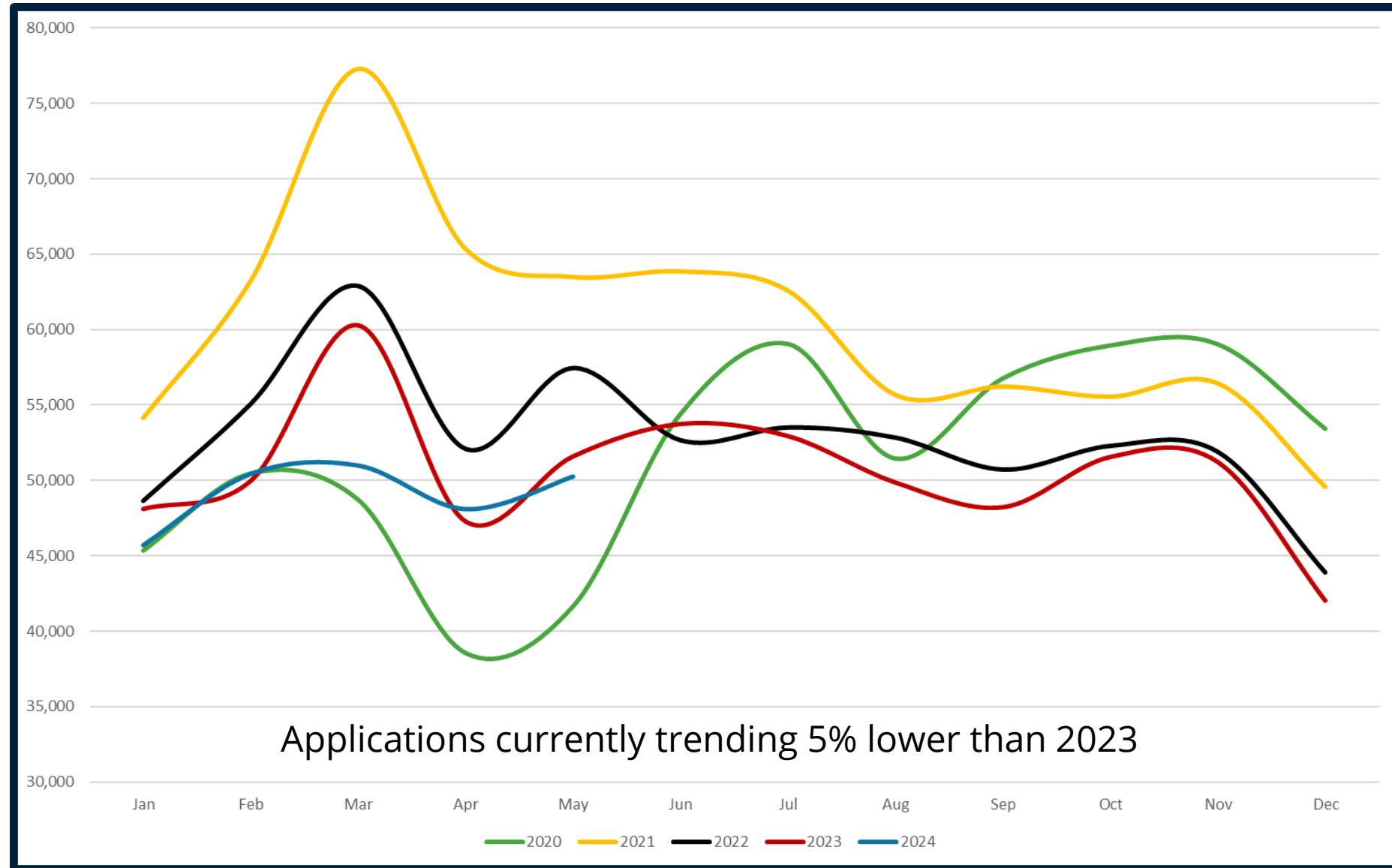# Agenda

- Introduction

- Planning Portal stats & market insight

- Policy changes & content improvements

- Improvements and changes

- Future spatial integration between DM & Policy

- Questions

Transforming planning and building...

The Stats

Applications currently trending 5% lower than 2023

Legend: 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024

PlanningPortal

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Biodiversity net gain – what you need to know?

An additional specific 'biodiversity net gain' question to all full and outline planning applications

This now guides you through to:

- State whether the proposal is not subject to the requirements, based on the exemptions allowed by government (including 'small sites' while they are not covered); or

- Provide relevant details to satisfy the requirements and refer to any additional supporting information that they will be providing.

Joe's Blooms®
Biodiversity made simple

Easily comply with the new mandatory biodiversity net gain requirements
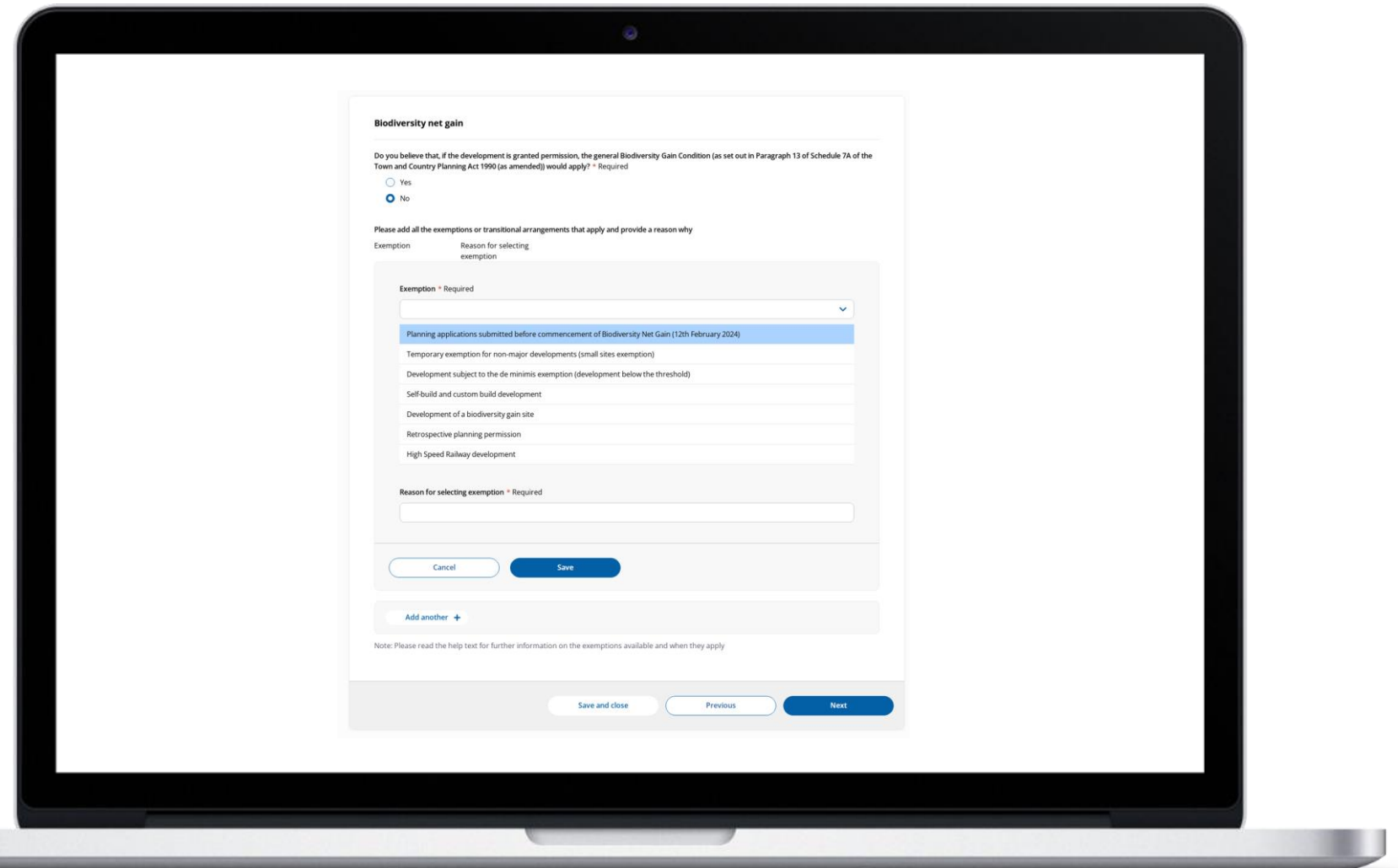
Sustainability Hub

- As climate concerns escalate, the built environment will see a lot of legislative and technological shifts in 2024.

- The hub will be there to help prepare the industry for the changes.

- Expect to find information on sustainability legislation, guidance on the funding available for various sustainability projects, practical advice for optimising the sustainability of all sorts of common building and regeneration projects, and up-to-date sustainability news from across the built environment industries.

We are launching the
SUSTAINABILITY HUB!

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TerraQuest

What do Government say...

"processing of planning data"

"setting data standards"

"data is held consistently and transmissible"

"provided digitally"

"approved data standards"

"excessive manual re-entry"

"make certain planning data available"

"data standards"

"openly available"

"consistent and more visual manner"

Processing and provision of planning data ©

Data	Processing
	Power to enable the Secretary of State to regulate the processing of planning data by setting data standards to apply to the data produced and held by planning authorities.
	This power is designed to ensure data is held consistently and transmissible through the planning system and can be easily reused for other purposes by third parties.
	Provision
	Power to enable planning authorities to require data arising from participants in the planning system to be provided digitally to them, in accordance with approved data standards, unless it would be unreasonable to expect a particular participant to do so.
	The power is designed to ensure that local authorities are not overwhelmed by submissions in formats incompatible with data standards, resulting in excessive manual re-entry of data.

Planning data to be made publicly available ©

Publishing	Power to require planning authorities to make certain planning data available to the public under an approved open licence.
	This power is designed to ensure that the data held and created under the data standards power, is openly available and published for use by parties other than the planning authority and the Secretary of State. It is expected that the combination of the data standards and publication powers will result in information being provided in a consistent and more visual manner to the public by planning authorities.

New Planning Portal Platform

Delivering planning services in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Delivered in Jan 22 – TerraQuest developed a new, cloud-based application service that is flexible enough to cater for the needs of our customers and partners both now and in the future.

The new platform is built on modern technology: more spatial, more interoperable and modular, and built to enable the future digital improvements need in planning and building.

Achieved TÜViT Trusted Product Maintainability certification.

TÜViT
TÜV NORD GROUP

Maintainability
Trusted Product
2023

tuvit.de   ID: 6400.23

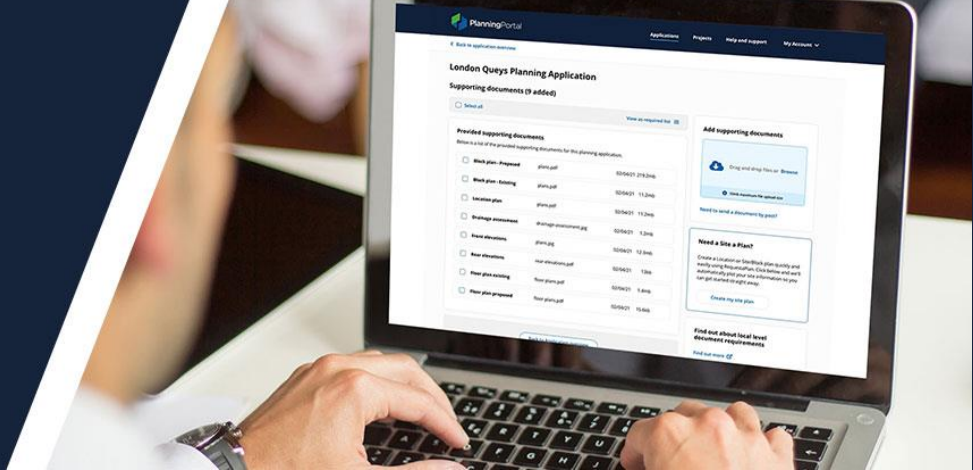*'Continuous system infrastructure improvements to enable greater resilience and robustness'.*

TerraQuest

Planning Portal

Roadmap for 2023/24

Location Plan Integration – May 23

Creation of the location polygon within the Planning Application process, enabling the polygon data to be passed to the Local Planning Authority

Location Plan feature
Polygon Capture

- ✓ Reduce invalidation
- ✓ Passing data not documents
- ✓ Efficiency gains
- ✓ Consistency

New Modern API Connector – May 23

New process for transferring applications from the Planning Portal to the Local Planning Authorities

New Connectors
JSON & GeoJSON

- ✓ Modern technology
- ✓ Data and geographical data
- ✓ Government recommended standard

Amendment Process Improvement & Bi-directional integration

User experience improvements for making amendments to a submitted application which will benefit applicants, agents and Local Planning Authorities

Amendment Process Improvement
Upload "delta" not "full" Application
Bi-directional integration
For status updates throughout processing

- ✓ Efficiency gains
- ✓ Only passes the amendment delta
- ✓ Improved user journey

Re-platforming Building Control with standalone payment service - 2024

Joined-up application processes to share data across services with ability to nominate and transact payments

Re-Platforming Building Control with payments
Improving service delivery – in discovery stage

- ✓ Efficiency gains
- ✓ Improved user journey
- ✓ Single sign-on for multiple services

New Location Plan Feature

The process of locating a site on the Planning Portal has been updated.

Instead of plotting the red line boundary externally, users can draw or upload the site's location directly within the service.

The spatial file is then sent to LPAs, eliminating the need to redraw the boundary.

Launched 2 May 2023

Powered By
TerraQuest

Why have we done it?

Supports Government digital planning reform
'Data, not documents'

Reducing invalidation

Improving efficiency

Consistent approach

PlanningPortal

Select your drawing tool

○ **Auto boundary selection**
This drawing tool does all the hard work for you, just select the boundary area.

○ **Free hand drawing tool**
This drawing tool allows you to draw more complex boundaries.

What boundary are you drawing?

● **Red line boundary**
The red line boundary is used to highlight the site boundary.

○ **Blue line boundary**
The blue line boundary is used to highlight any additional property or land owned by the applicant.

‹ Close
Clear all
↺ Undo last
? Help

ⓘ It looks as though you have created the site boundary drawing. Choose 'Finish Drawing' to save. If you need to add further property boundaries you can do so from within 'Tools'. ✕

20 m

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Ordnance Survey

Reset boundaries   Finish drawing

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Ordnance Survey (OS)

The location plan feature leverages OS as the base map, enabling a smarter and streamlined national standard submission process.
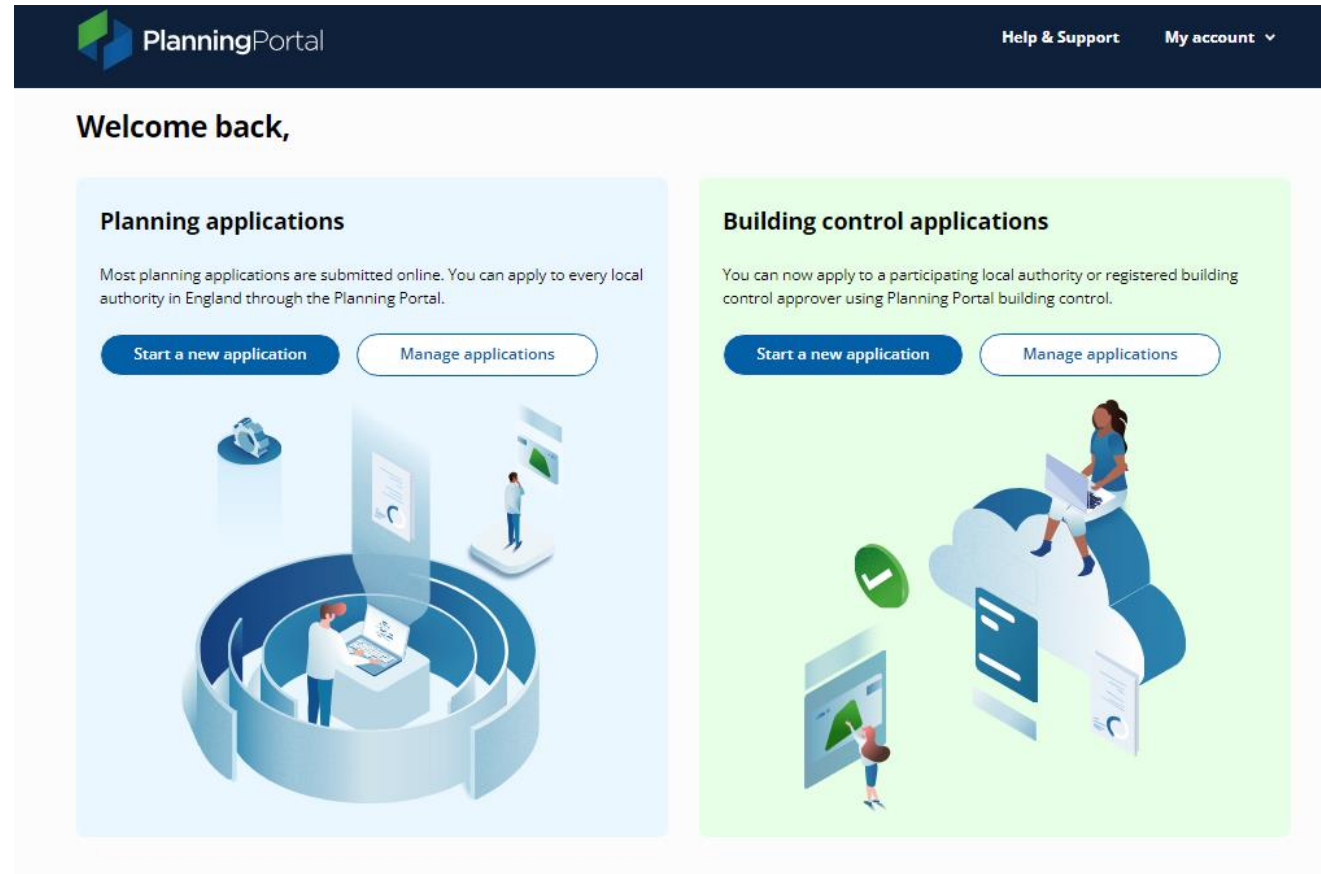
To **enhance spatial information integration**, we **provide LPAs with a digital location plan (GeoJSON) for ingestion into their planning systems**. This eliminates the need for manual plotting from a PDF plan.

The plan can also be utilised for building control and local land charges, promoting comprehensive data sharing.

It also promotes the partnership between OS and LPAs to share data through the Public Sector Geospatial Agreement (PSGA)

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Re-Platforming Building Control & Payment Service

(+) Single account sign on (Planning Portal)

(+) Ability to link a building control application to a planning application

(+) Improved projects, can contain building control and planning applications

(+) Facilitation of a confirmed fee between applicant and local authority

(+) Utilising the new payment service will alleviate pain-points & nominate would be an enhancement

PlanningPortal
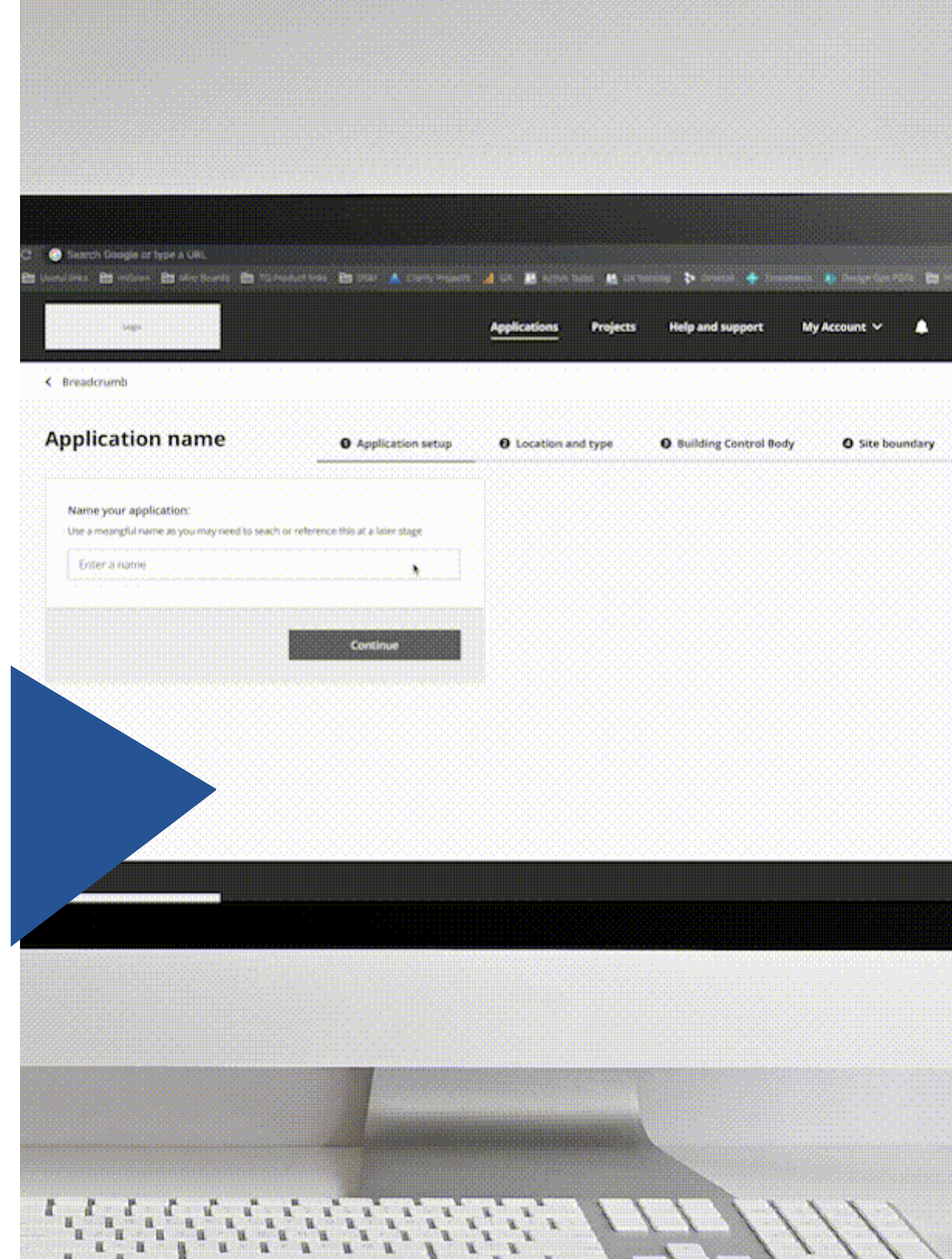
Connecting existing systems to integrate new ways of working...

A modern interface and data standard

We've been facilitating application submissions for 20 years. So, what's new?

- A resilient, robust standard format used for transmitting data online

- More efficient methods that use modern coding practices:

    RESTful APIs and JSON data instead of legacy SOAP messages and XML data

- It's secure and scalable, allowing change to be managed in an agile way

- Follows Government Data standards and the Technology Code of Practice

- Provides all the information collected as part of the application for use by LPA systems, including:

    Question fields; Site location boundaries; Fee details; Supporting documents

- Working in partnership with LPAs and their suppliers on Planning Software Improvement projects.

Delivering a modern, standard digital planning & Building control system nationwide

PlanningPortal

Connecting existing systems to integrate new ways of working…

A modern connector and data standard

Longer-term it has many additional benefits to improve digital service delivery:

- First steps towards bi-directional information sharing between Planning Portal, TerraQuest's suite of products, and Local Authority systems and services

- Improved 'Amendment' functions for a more efficient validation process

- Updates on application status and progress provided to users on the Planning Portal

- Associates/partners of Local Authorities and/or user can also be setup to receive notifications

- Additional data from legislative requirements for specialist information *e.g. Biodiversity; Fire Safety*

- Extensible to allow transition of supporting information from documents to data *e.g. CIL / IL*

All helping to deliver greater transparency to the applicant, agent and Local Authority, enabling greater efficiency throughout the planning process and reducing avoidable contact and manual effort.

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Spatially joining up Development Management & Planning Policy
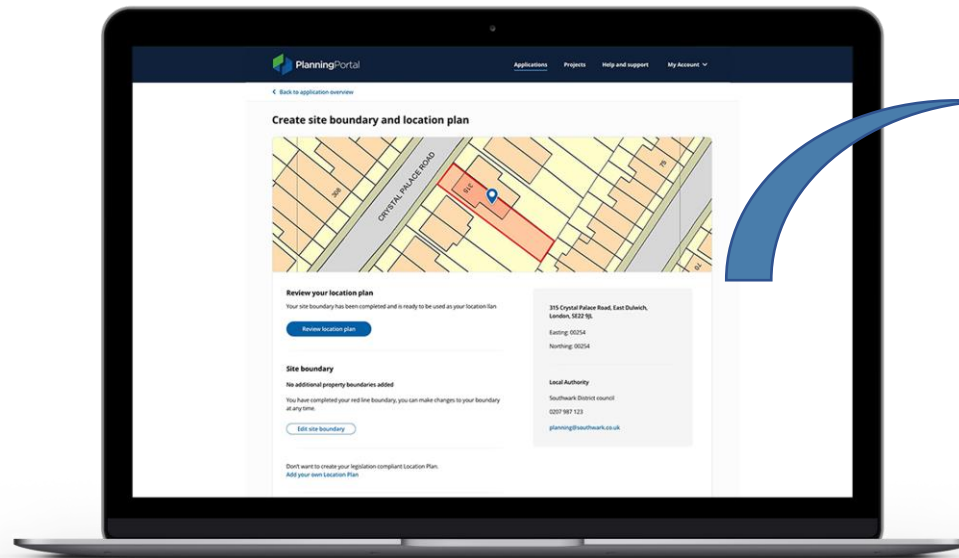
DLUHC Planning Data Platform 'open data standards' presents an opportunity to front-load making an application with Planning Policy by understanding site specific policies and designations.

This is being evaluated as part of the successful PSIF bids.

Many benefits to all stakeholders:
• Inform the planning process and whether some proposals are PD or require a planning permission
• Access to relevant policy information to achieve a complete, high-quality application providing all required supporting information
• Identify development sites (SHLAA, Brownfield register etc)

Applicants: Research site feasibility & evaluation
LAs: Plan-led so fundamental to improving validation and processing applications

Using digital service delivery to increasing efficiency and reduce resource and cost for all!

Data Platform – unlocking opportunities

Opportunities for feeding the data back to Planning Portal for better experience and new functionality
Early feedback, guidance and validation during application completion, using dynamic GIS analytics

Opportunities for enriching the data
Data analytics and processing to find relationships and patterns, with potential to creating new datasets and standards in planning space

Opportunities for provisioning of data and new interfaces
Data structured and optimized for consumption by external parties and systems

Enabling Data Science activities in planning domain

Stepping-stone towards AI

PlanningPortal

Delivering a digital future

We are a safe, trusted partner with over 20 years' experience

We are innovative, forward thinking, agile

We are here to help you – talk to us & get involved in shaping our services

Get in touch @
support@planningportal.co.uk

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