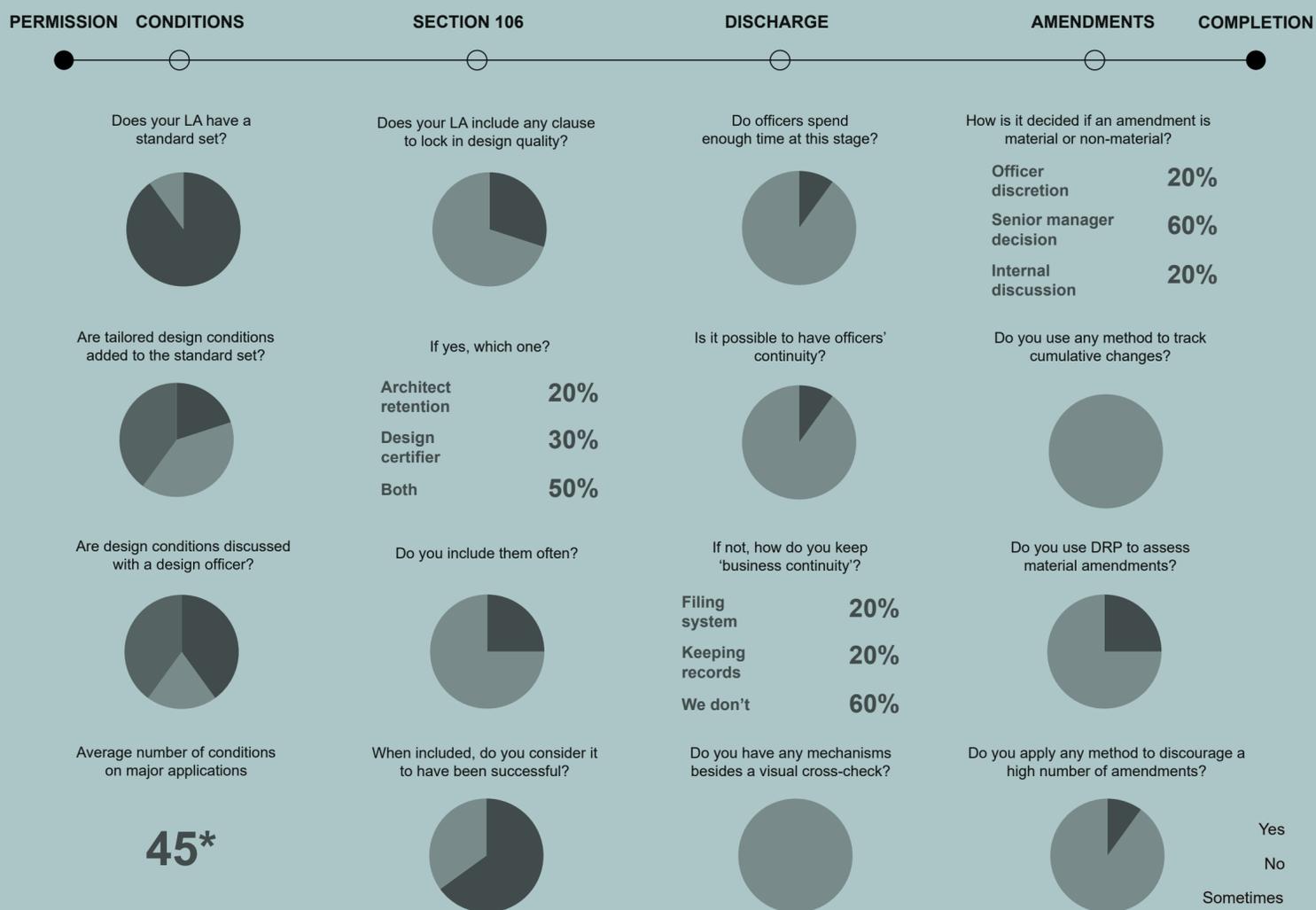


# PUBLIC PRACTICE

## What methods can Authorities use to ensure design quality is maintained through to completion and beyond?



Responses collected through surveys and interviews with 10 Authorities. Data has been organised chronologically, following the planning system timeline and addressing key points where there are risks but also opportunities to lock-in design quality.

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The new London Plan emphasises the need to optimise housing densities in order to accommodate current and future demand. This translates into increasingly higher housing targets for local authorities. Good design becomes even more important in this scenario so higher densities can be accommodated while minimising negative impacts and delivering sustainable places. While it is recognised that the pre-application stage is fundamental to achieve good quality places, the post-application stage is often subject to less scrutiny and control. Yet what happens to a project after permission is granted is fundamental to the success of a design. The aim of the research is to provide Local Authorities with a toolkit to lock-in quality after planning permission

is granted. To produce this toolkit, the research involves conducting interviews and surveys with various stakeholders involved in the planning process. The research also seeks to understand more about the ways councils currently manage the post-application stage; both what is working well and where there might be opportunities for improvement. The research will develop methods to secure design quality and test these with various stakeholders to produce a robust set of recommendations. Recognising the time-constraints Local Authorities work within, the research will provide time-effective mechanisms to help Authorities monitor and better control the post-application stage.