Planning

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| If the UK is to build more housing, expanding planning capacity will be crucial.  Between 2009 and 2021, every region in 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿England saw a decline in planning expenditure. 📉  🧵Thread  #ChartOfTheDay #GE2024Economist | A graph of a number of countries/regions  Description automatically generated |
| How much are Local Authorities in 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿England spending on planning?  Bristol (£62M) and Islington (£60) spent the most of any unitary authorities in 2022-3.  However, higher planning expenditure doesn’t always mean more houses: 👇 | A map of england with different colored areas  Description automatically generated |
| In 2022-3, work started on just 30 houses in Islington, despite its high expenditure. | A map of a city with numbers  Description automatically generated  [video] |
| The total number of planning applications has declined since 2006.  At the same time, the backlog in processing has worsened. 👇 |  |
| In 2022, only 20% of major development applications were decided within the statutory limit of 13 weeks. | A graph showing the growth of the company's financial status  Description automatically generated with medium confidence |
| The number of publicly employed town planning officers has fallen by 3,000 since 2010, and cash-strapped local authorities lack the human resources to build capacity.  Between 2016 and 2021, only 8% of job postings for town planning officers were for public sector roles. |  |
| Read more about housing from the Economics Observatory:  Last year, @charlie\_meyrick wrote about **challenging times in the UK’s housing market**  https://buff.ly/438bBR0 |  |
| How does the [#housing](https://x.com/hashtag/housing?src=hashtag_click) market affect [#UK](https://x.com/hashtag/UK?src=hashtag_click) productivity? By Duncan Maclennan and Jinqiao Long  https://t.co/OevvnR0bsh |  |
| How we can tackle the UK's housing crisis? By  [@sjs\_1869](https://x.com/sjs_1869)  https://t.co/Fqm15Gijou |  |

Healthcare Waiting Lists

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| As of [March this year](https://www.bma.org.uk/advice-and-support/nhs-delivery-and-workforce/pressures/nhs-backlog-data-analysis), the NHS wait list for elective care the waiting list stood at 7.54 million cases (6.29 million individuals), according to @TheBMA analysis.  Close to 3.23 million patients have been waiting for longer than 18 weeks, and 309,000 for over a year.  #ChartOfTheDay #GE2024Economist | A graph of a patient  Description automatically generated with medium confidence |
| Discover more about regional health, social and economic indicators with the Economics Observatory’s interactive data story, Around the UK.  https://buff.ly/4arqJwK |  |

Devolution

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| 🇬🇧Devolution has increased the political and economic power of devolved bodies in 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁷󠁬󠁳󠁿Wales, 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁳󠁣󠁴󠁿Scotland, and Northern Ireland.  How are the devolved nations performing?  🧵Thread  #ChartOfTheDay #IdeaOfTheDay #GE2024Economist |  |
| Northern Ireland and Wales have exceeded Scotland and the UK’s poor productivity performance since the Covid-19 pandemic. |  |
| But the employment rate in Wales and Northern Ireland has declined since pre-pandemic. |  |
| The prevalence of economic inactivity is greatest in Wales and Northern Ireland. |  |
| To find out more about their economic performance, read Robyn Smith’s full article on how the devolved nations are faring.  <https://www.economicsobservatory.com/how-are-the-uks-devolved-nations-faring-ahead-of-the-general-election> |  |
| In late 2022, @anne\_dev1 wrote about how Covid-19 affected economic inactivity in Northern Ireland.  Read the full article on the Economics Observatory website https://buff.ly/3P2NZrJ |  |
| What about non-economic measures?  Devolution has also led to a divergence in education policy. 📚  While England has risen on the PISA rankings, the performance of students in Scotland has fallen.  In 2022, Scotland’s PISA score fell below the OECD average for Maths and Science.  Visit our Data Hub to explore and create your own charts https://buff.ly/3mkZ2je |  |
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