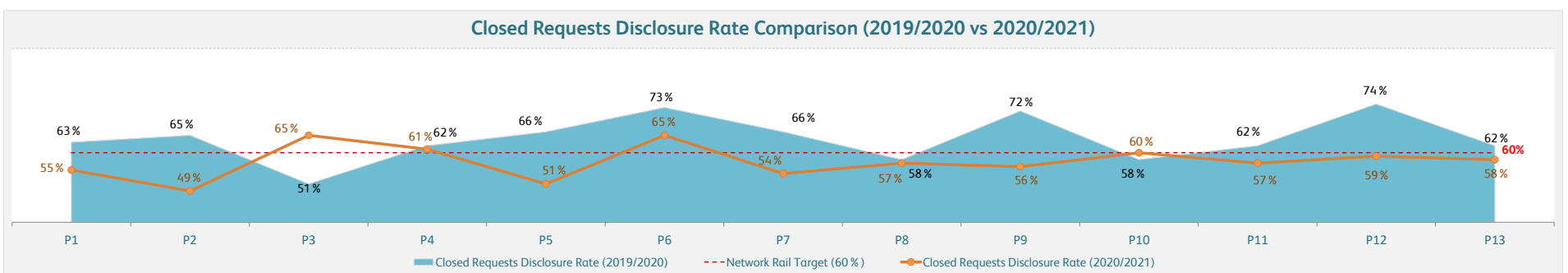
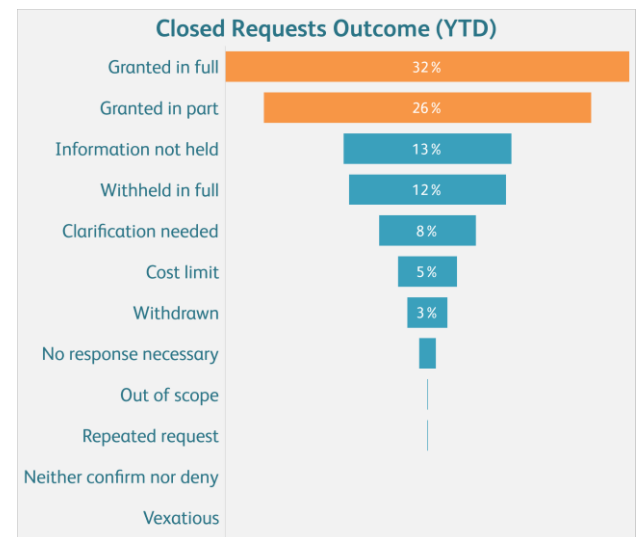
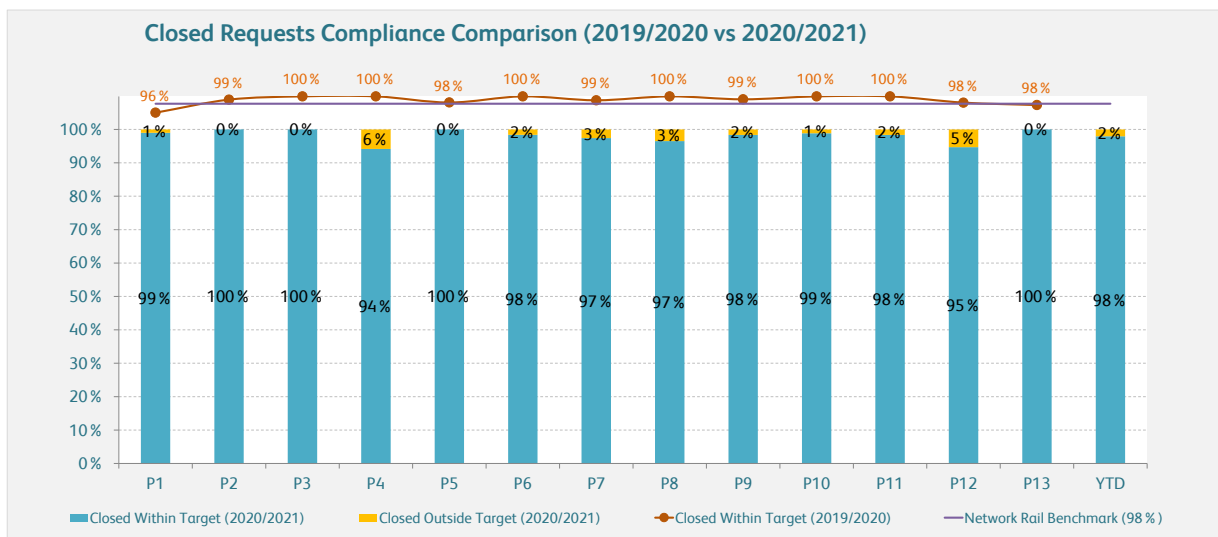
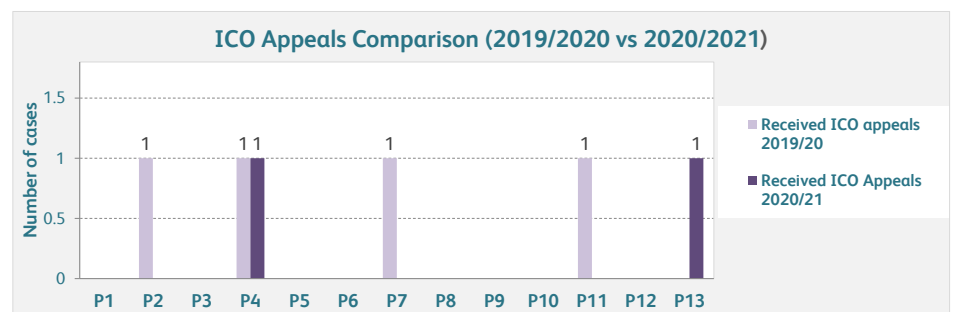
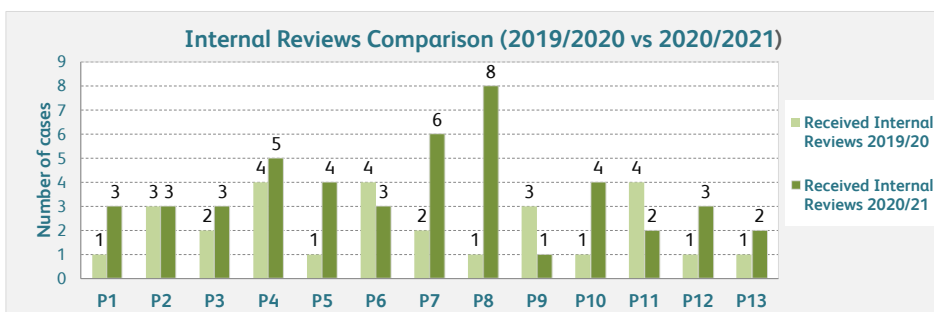
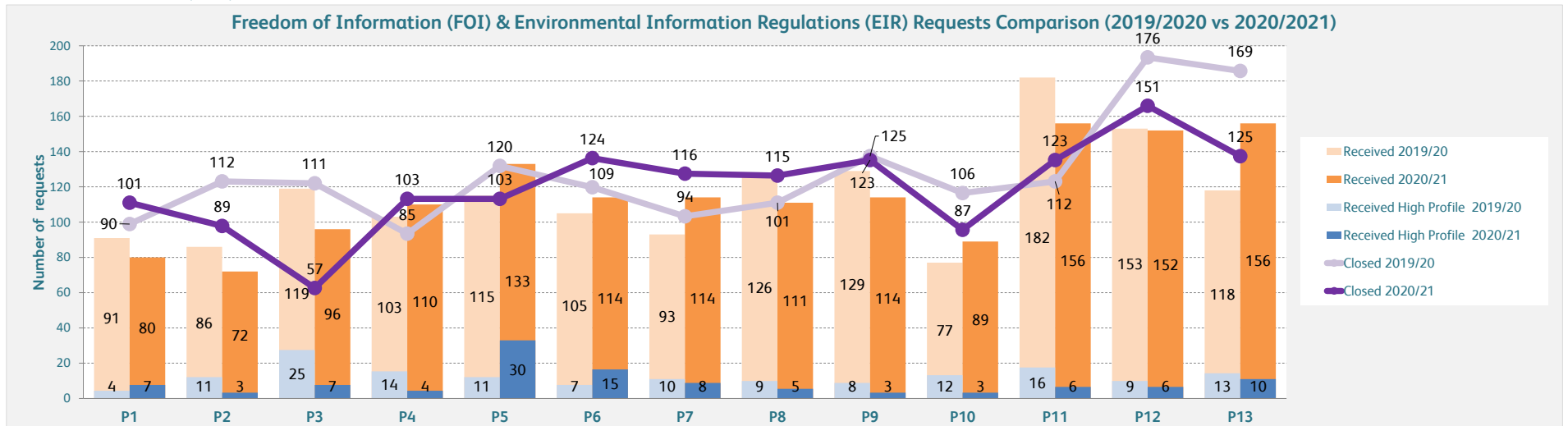


Received Requests (YTD)
 Closed Requests (YTD)
 On Target Open Requests at Period End
 Overdue Open Requests at Period End

Received Internal Reviews (YTD)
 Closed Internal Reviews (YTD)
 Open Internal Reviews at Period End

Received ICO appeals (YTD)
 Closed ICO appeals (YTD)
 Open ICO appeals at Period End



How are we doing against our targets?

The overall intake of new requests for Period 13(P13) was 156 and the average weekly intake of requests for the period was 39. This is the highest number of requests received in P13 since Network Rail became subject to FOI and EIR. It is a 3% increase from the last period and a 32% increase on requests received in the same P13 of 2019/20. It is the 3rd consecutive period where the number of requests received has increased.

We achieved 100% compliance during P13, with no requests closed outside the statutory deadline. This brings our YTD compliance to 98% and continues our strong performance against the regulator's benchmark of 90%.

The number of new high profile cases received during P13 was 10; this is a 67% increase compared to the previous period. These include requests for Network Services Change Proposal documents, Western Rail Link to Heathrow papers, the progress of "no regret" electrification schemes, and the number of pedestrian incursions at level crossings. A number of these requests focus on financial information including the spend with named companies, the spend on flights, the efficiency value from non-payment of bonuses and compensation for bridge strikes. There are also requests for the number of Covid positive tests and deaths, and redundancies over the last 6 years.

We provided information in response to 58% of requests during P13, bringing the overall 2020/21 disclosure rate to 58%. This is a 7% decrease against the 65% achieved in 2019/20, and is slightly below our KPI of 60%.

We received two new first stage appeals (termed Internal Reviews or IRs) during P13. Two IRs were closed during P13. Following a peak in P7 and 8, the YTD has met the current KPI of 'less than' 5% of overall requests. All current appeals concern information about specific issues affecting lineside neighbours and local residents.

One new appeal has been made to the ICO during P13 and is now awaiting investigation – this concerns information about the valuation and purchase of the Old Station Building in Bristol.

There is one ongoing ICO investigation for appeal concerning our refusal to provide details and locations of fatalities on the railway due to electrocution. The requester has been directed to some published information, and we are awaiting a formal decision from the ICO on our position of exempting the remaining details.

It continues to be the case that there have been no third stage appeals to the First-Tier Tribunal since Network Rail became subject to Freedom of Information and Environmental Information legislation in 2015.