



Borough of Oadby & Wigston

Full Council

11 December 2007

Annual Monitoring Report

Report of: Director of Community Services Report Number:
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NON-CONFIDENTIAL

This report is likely to be considered while the meeting is open to press & public

Summary:

The Borough Council is required to prepare an Annual Monitoring Report under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. It must be submitted to the Secretary of State by the end of December 2007.

Recommendations:

- (1) That the requirement to produce an Annual Monitoring Report is noted.
- (2) That approval is given for the Annual Monitoring Report to be submitted to the Secretary of State.

Level of delegation: Council

Wards affected: All

Comments of Statutory Officers:

Head of Paid Service: None
Proper Officer for Financial Affairs: None
Monitoring Officer: None received

Appendices Attached: See attached

Impact Assessments:

Health: The Annual Monitoring Report will monitor spatial planning policies that aim to have a beneficial impact on health.

Environment: The Annual Monitoring Report will monitor spatial planning policies that aim to have a beneficial impact on the environment.

Community Safety: The Annual Monitoring Report will monitor spatial planning policies that aim to have a beneficial impact on community safety.

Human Rights: No impact.

Equal Opportunities: No impact.

Commentary:

1. The Annual Monitoring Report has the following aims:

- To review progress in terms of local development document preparation against the timetable and milestones set out in the Local Development Scheme;
- To assess the extent to which policies in the local development documents are being implemented;
- Where policies are not being implemented, to explain why and set out what steps are being taken to ensure that the policy is implemented; or whether the policy is to be amended or replaced;
- To identify the significant effects of implementing policies in local development documents and whether they are as intended;
- To set out whether policies are being amended or replaced; and
- To identify which Local Plan policies will be saved beyond the plan period.

2. The Annual Monitoring Report contains a number of indicators. Contextual Indicators provide a backdrop against which the effects of policies can be considered. They include demography and social cultural issues. Core Output Indicators are established by the Government and cover topics for which data is required from local authorities to facilitate monitoring at a regional and national level, such as housing and employment statistics. Local Indicators address the outputs of policies not covered by the Core Output Indicators, and are specific to the Borough.

3. One of the key Core Output indicators that the Borough Council is required to monitor relates to housing policy and performance, particularly in terms of net additional dwellings. Local planning authorities are required to prepare a housing trajectory to:

- Establish past and anticipated housing supply over the lifespan of a development plan document
- Assess any shortfall or surplus of housing over the plan period through comparison to planned build rates
- Reflect the outcome of discussion with stakeholders
- Demonstrate how policies relating to housing provision will be delivered.

It is intended that housing trajectories will support the plan, monitor and manage approach to housing delivery by showing past and estimating future performance.

4. The concept of the Annual Monitoring Report has been developed to facilitate the monitoring of Local Development Frameworks. Given that the Borough Council is still preparing this document, and will be for the next few years, parts of this report have been adapted to allow the monitoring of Local Plan policies which still apply to the Borough.

5. The main findings of the Annual Monitoring Report are outlined below:

Local Development Scheme

- The Borough Council is currently revising the Local Development Scheme, it is anticipated that the revised LDS will come into effect in April 2008.
- The Statement of Community Involvement was adopted inline with the LDS.
- In the last year the following documents have been adopted:
 - London Road and Saint Peters Conservation Area Appraisal (not within LDS)
 - Oadby Court Conservation Area Appraisal (not within LDS)

Housing Delivery

- Through the implementation of Local Plan policies and associated Supplementary Planning Guidance the Borough Council is on course to provide 1700 dwellings in the Borough between 1996 and 2016 as required by the Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Structure Plan.
- The Borough Council is committed to keeping progress under review and to amend planning policy and guidance in the future as may be necessary.

Policy Performance and Effects

- The Borough Council has been able to provide information in relation to the Core Output Indicators and has established a number of Local Indicators this year.
- There is a shortfall in the amount of employment land currently provided in the Borough. The Council intend to apply planning policies to minimise the loss of further employment land where appropriate, and to consider the outcomes of an employment land study currently being undertaken.

Extension of saved Local Plan policies

- The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 provided for the saving of policies in adopted or approved local plans for a period of 3 years from the commencement date of the Act (28 September 2004). Policies in adopted or approved plans at the commencement date expired on 27 September 2007 unless the Secretary of State extends such policies beyond this date. Appendix 3 of the AMR contains the extension of saved local plan policies schedule.

Background Papers referred to in compiling this report:

Annual Monitoring Report 2006/07