

CHAPTER 10 – MONITORING

DEFINING HOW THE PLAN WILL BE MONITORED AND REVIEWED

Background

10.1 The requirement to monitor Local Plans was set out in the 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (part 2, section 35). Local Authorities were required to produce an Annual Monitoring Report containing Core Output Indicators and submit it to the Secretary of State. Now, Local Authorities simply have to produce a monitoring report at least annually that has to be made public, and there is more flexibility over what can be included.

Reporting

10.2 The Council will continue to report on the monitoring via an Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). The AMR is published on the Council's website and is available in hard copy at the Council's main office at The Arc, High Street, Clowne. In addition to reporting the performance and measuring the delivery of targets in the Local Plan, the AMR also contains:

- a) details of a range of up to date reports and surveys which may be expected to affect development of the area or the planning of its development;
 - b) details of progress on any Local Plans or Supplementary Planning Documents;
 - c) details of activities undertaken with other local authorities/bodies in relation to the Duty to Co-operate;
 - d) information on the implementation of any Neighbourhood Plan in the District.
- e) The AMR will also be used to highlight contributions made by development, including, at present, Section 106 planning obligations and New Homes Bonus Payments.

Purpose

10.3 In addition to keeping local communities and interested parties up-to-date through the AMR, monitoring the Local Plan allows the Council to consider its progress in regards to the overall Local Plan Vision. Monitoring draws attention to the impact policies may have on planning decisions and development in general. It will also highlight any unintended consequences or areas where changes are needed to keep the Plan moving the District in the desired direction.

Generic image of district/ object linked to district. Can be located anywhere in chapter.

Monitoring

- 10.4 The Local Plan identifies a set of Strategic Objectives that shape the paths we take to seek to achieve the Local Plans Vision. In order to fulfil the Strategic Objectives, a range of policies have been devised that will be monitored to ensure they are, and remain, effective in moving the District towards the Vision.
- 10.5 In order to monitor the effectiveness of the policies, the Council has chosen realistic and measurable indicators to make the process realistically feasible. Where appropriate, each indicator has a target to assess whether a policy is contributing to a Strategic Objective or whether the Plan needs a partial or full review. If an indicator fails to meet the target, the policy will be carefully observed at the following reporting period or a review will be initiated immediately, depending on the severity of the deviation or detriment of the policy in meeting the Strategic Objective. A review may include the revision, addition or deletion of policies, to ensure the Plan continues to move the District towards achieving the Vision.
- 10.6 Whilst all of the indicators chosen are quantifiable in order to maintain objectiveness, there are some instances where a subjective judgement may have to be made within the process. For example, the indicator for policies SC2 and SC3 is the Building for Life 12 score. This score derives from judgements of how well a development meets certain design criteria and is therefore a subjective process. Where issues like this exist, or where a target may be based on a trajectory which is difficult to predict accurately, a policy's effectiveness will be measured by the direction of travel; for example, an increasing or decreasing trend or where it is clear that progress is, or is not, being made. It is also accepted that indicators may need to change if data availability or the method of collecting data changes.

Flexibility

- 10.7 Flexibility within the Plan is important to facilitate and maintain the Plan's performance and relevance, not only considering changes in local circumstances or issues raised by monitoring, but also with issues such as Brexit and uncertainty over the stability of central government's direction of travel.

Figures: Objectives to Policies and Indicators, targets and triggers for review

- 10.8 Appendix 10.1 below shows which policies contribute to achieving which objective. It also demonstrates the scope of policies; in that a particular policy can work towards many, and even all, of the objectives and, therefore, ensuring that these policies are not only being implemented but are actually effective is imperative. This highlights the complex relationships between policies and the multifaceted nature of the Plan.
- 10.9 Appendix 10.2 shows the indicators that will be used to monitor each policy, the target to keep each policy effective and the point at which a review should

be initiated. It also indicates how information will be collected. All policies will be monitored by the number of appeals upheld contrary to the policy and therefore this is not included within the table. Where an indicator, target or review trigger involves the number of applications granted contrary to policy, this does include those allowed on appeal.