

WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2017
LOCAL PLAN MONITORING REPORT
REPORT OF THE HEAD OF PLANNING AND STRATEGIC HOUSING
(Contact: Chris Hargraves, Tel: (01993) 861686)

The report is for information.

1. PURPOSE

To consider the Council's Local Plan monitoring report for 2016 – 2017.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the content of the Local Plan monitoring report be noted.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1. Although no longer required to submit an annual report to Government, local authorities are still required under current legislation to regularly report to local communities on the following matters:

- Progress of the Local Plan and any other related documents against agreed timetables;
- Implementation of Local Plan policies;
- Neighbourhood Planning;
- Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) where this has been introduced; and
- How the Council has fulfilled its obligations under the 'duty to co-operate'

3.2. This information should be made freely available on the Council's website, at its main offices and any other appropriate locations.

3.3. Attached at Appendix 1 is a copy of the most recent Local Plan monitoring report for West Oxfordshire. Members should note that it primarily covers the period 1st April 2016 – 31st March 2017 but where data is available it has been reported up until 30th June 2017 to provide the most up to date information possible on the implementation of the emerging Local Plan for West Oxfordshire.

4. OVERVIEW

4.1. The 2016/17 Local Plan monitoring report is attached at Appendix 1 and includes an executive summary for ease of reference. Members should note that the format and structure of the monitoring report has been carried forward from the previous year as it provides an attractive and accessible format for the monitoring data.

4.2. The report follows the structure of the emerging Local Plan, to allow for a clearer understanding of the extent to which policies are being achieved or not.

4.3. Indicators have been drawn from the submission draft Local Plan 2031. Members will note that in some instances, proposed indicators are still in the process of being

developed or information is not yet available and cannot therefore be reported on at the current time.

- 4.4. The intention is to report on more indicators in the next Local Plan monitoring report which will cover the period 1st April 2017 – 31st March 2018.
- 4.5. In terms of housing, key statistics reported on include dwelling completions and permissions by type and location, average density of development, proportion of development on previously developed (brownfield) land, affordable housing delivery and the type and mix of homes provided.
- 4.6. In terms of the economy, key statistics reported on include new business formation, permitted and completed employment and retail floorspace, percentage of superfast broadband coverage and the provision and loss of town centre uses.
- 4.7. In line with the structure of the emerging Local Plan, further data is provided in relation to transport and environmental and heritage assets. A separate annex is provided including key biodiversity statistics taken from the most recent 2017 biodiversity annual monitoring report prepared by the Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC).

5. NEXT STEPS

- 5.1. The monitoring report attached at Appendix I will be made available on the Council's website, at its main offices and at other appropriate locations throughout the District.

6. ALTERNATIVES/OPTIONS

- 6.1. None applicable.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1. There are no direct financial implications arising from the report.

8. RISKS

- 8.1. There are no risks associated with the report.

9. REASONS

- 9.1. There is a legislative requirement to report on the Local Plan and other related matters.

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Background Papers:

None