

**WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:**  
**THURSDAY 7 MARCH 2019**  
**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 2017- 2018.

**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 in the Appendix is a copy of the most recent Local Plan monitoring report for West Oxfordshire covering the period 1 April 2017 – 31 March 2018. It should be noted that the report has been prepared slightly later than usual as a consequence of Officer resources having been focused on the adoption of the Local Plan during 2018.

**4. OVERVIEW**

- 4.1. The Local Plan monitoring report for 2017 - 2018 is attached in the Appendix and includes an executive summary for ease of reference.
- 4.2. Members should note that the format and structure of the monitoring report has been carried forward from the previous year for consistency. The report continues to follow the structure of the Local Plan 2031, now adopted, to allow for a clearer understanding of the extent to which policies are being achieved or not.
- 4.3. Indicators originally drawn from the submission draft Local Plan 2031 have been reported against through this 2017-18 monitoring report. Members will note that in some instances, information is not yet available and cannot therefore be reported on at the current time.
- 4.4. It is anticipated that this information should be made available for the next Local Plan monitoring report which will cover the period 1 April 2018 – 31 March 2019.

- 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 Local Plan, further data is provided in relation to transport and environmental and heritage assets. Key biodiversity statistics have been taken from the most recent 2018 biodiversity annual monitoring report prepared by the Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC) and some of the key transport data has been obtained from Oxfordshire County Council as Highway Authority.

## **5. NEXT STEPS**

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

## **6. ALTERNATIVES/OPTIONS**

None applicable.

## **7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

This report has no financial implications.

## **8. RISKS**

There are no risks associated with the report.

## **9. REASONS**

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

Giles Hughes – Head of Planning and Strategic Housing  
(Author: Chris Hargraves, Tel: (01993) 861686; EMail: [chris.hargraves@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:chris.hargraves@westoxon.gov.uk))  
Date: 25 February 2019

### Background Papers:

None