

## SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

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**REPORT TO:** Planning Policy & Localism Portfolio Holder  
Meeting

13 December 2012

**AUTHOR/S:** Director of Planning & New Communities

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### LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT 2011-2012 (PART 1)

#### Purpose

1. To agree the Local Development Framework Annual Monitoring Report (Part 1) for publication on the Council's website, including the housing trajectory.
2. This is not a key decision but raises matters relating to the district as a whole and is a document the Council is required to prepare.

#### Recommendations

3. That the Planning Policy & Localism Portfolio Holder:
  - AGREES the contents of the Annual Monitoring Report (Part 1) (included as **Appendix 2**) for publication; and
  - DELEGATES any further minor editing changes to the Annual Monitoring Report (Part 1) to the Director of Planning and New Communities where they are technical matters.

#### Reasons for Recommendations

4. Local planning authorities are required to publish information that monitors progress on the implementation of their Local Development Scheme and planning policies included in their development plan documents, and to do this at least on an annual basis.

#### Background

5. Monitoring is essential to establish what has been happening in the district, what is happening now, what may happen in the future and what needs to be done to achieve policies and targets.
6. The Annual Monitoring Report reviews progress on the implementation of the Local Development Scheme and also includes over 90 indicators to measure the performance of the Council's adopted planning policies and over 45 indicators to measure the objectives set out in the Council's Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report.
7. This is the eighth Annual Monitoring Report produced by the Council and covers the period from 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012.

8. The Annual Monitoring Report being submitted for agreement is only partially complete. Officers have been unable to complete the full Annual Monitoring Report, as resources have been focussed on inputting the representations received through the public consultation on the Local Plan Issues & Options and preparing the Local Plan Issues & Options 2 documents (see the separate report to this Portfolio Holder Meeting). Part 1 of the Annual Monitoring Report (included as Appendix 2) outlines the Council's progress against its adopted Local Development Scheme and reports on the housing indicators. It also includes the Council's housing trajectory setting out predicted housing supply to 2031 and its five year housing land supply. The remainder of the Annual Monitoring Report will be completed and then submitted to the Planning Policy & Localism Portfolio Holder in early 2013 for agreement to publish it.

### **Considerations**

#### *Progress against the Local Development Scheme*

9. The Local Development Scheme (LDS) applying during the monitoring period was adopted by the Council in March 2011. The LDS set out the Council's intention to prepare a new South Cambridgeshire Local Plan that would incorporate a review of the Core Strategy, Development Control Policies DPD and Site Specific Policies DPD. Preparation of the new Local Plan has progressed largely in accordance with the timetable and public consultation on issues and options for the district took place between July and September 2012.
10. A second round of public consultation on issues and options, being undertaken jointly with Cambridge City Council, is now planned for January – February 2013. This second round of public consultation, and also the need to co-ordinate with Cambridge City Council on producing the draft Local Plan, has had some implications on the timetable for the later stages of preparing the Local Plan.
11. The LDS also set out the intention at that time to continue to separately prepare a Gypsy & Traveller DPD. However, progress on the preparation of this plan has slipped due to delayed progress and agreement on an updated Cambridgeshire Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment, which is a key evidence base study for this plan. The slippage meant that there was no longer an advantage in progressing this plan separately and therefore a revised LDS was adopted in January 2012 setting out the Council's intention to include any policies and proposals for Gypsy and Travellers within the new Local Plan.

#### *Monitoring the Local Development Framework policies and Sustainability Appraisal objectives*

12. The Executive Summary outlines the headline results from the Annual Monitoring Report (Part 1), and is attached as **Appendix 1**.
13. The Annual Monitoring Report incorporates the housing trajectory and approach to demonstrating a five-year housing land supply. The Council has identified a total of 17,073 new dwellings that could be provided over the next 20 years (and beyond)

based on existing allocations and planning permissions, including 4,531 dwellings that could be provided over the next five years. However, despite being able to identify this level of deliverable housing land, the Council has a shortfall against its five year housing land supply requirement. Against the Core Strategy, the Council has 2.3 years of housing land supply; however against the 'Medium' housing target option included in the Local Plan Issues & Options Report, the Council has 4.1 years of supply. The Council has not made any decision on the appropriate target for the new Local Plan, however, during the plan making process, additional housing allocations will be identified to ensure that the new Local Plan identifies enough housing land supply to meet the chosen target.

14. The analysis from the Annual Monitoring Report is being used to inform the preparation of the new Local Plan. Issues and options relating to planning policies that have been identified for review in recent Annual Monitoring Reports are being explored through the preparation of the new Local Plan. However, the monitoring of the performance of the Council's planning policies has shown that development granted planning permission in the district is generally in accordance, or moving towards accordance, with the adopted planning policies. For some indicators, the data shows a period of transition between the adopted planning policies included in the Local Plan 2004 and those included in the Core Strategy and Development Control Policies DPD, both adopted in 2007.

### Options

15. It is a legal requirement that the Council publish its Annual Monitoring Report, and that it monitors progress on the implementation of its Local Development Scheme and the performance of the planning policies included in its development plan documents.

### Implications

16. Financial	None arising from the Annual Monitoring Report.
Legal	Local planning authorities are required to publish information monitoring progress on the implementation of their Local Development Scheme and planning policies included in their development plan documents, and to do this at least on an annual basis.
Staffing	The Annual Monitoring Report has been prepared within existing staff resources.
Risk Management	It is a legal requirement to publish an Annual Monitoring Report.
Equality and Diversity	The Annual Monitoring Report does not identify any implications for equality and diversity.
Equality Impact Assessment completed	No. The Annual Monitoring Report is used to monitor the implementation of the Council's planning policies and provide information on their impact, it is not a policy or project that can be assessed.
Climate Change	The effects of the Council's planning policies on climate change are assessed in the Annual Monitoring Report.

## Consultations

17. The housing trajectory included in the Annual Monitoring Report has been produced in consultation with the various landowners, developers and agents responsible for the sites included in it. Council officers and external organisations have provided information and data for the indicators included in the Annual Monitoring Report (Part 1).

### Consultation with Children and Young People

18. None, the Annual Monitoring Report is a technical assessment of the Council's progress on preparing its planning policy documents and the performance of the Council's adopted planning policies.

### Effect on Strategic Aims

19. **We will listen to and engage with residents, parishes and businesses to ensure we deliver first class services and value for money.** The Annual Monitoring Report provides information on the Council's performance against its planning policies; these policies aim to provide successful, vibrant, healthy and sustainable communities.
20. **We will work with partners to create and sustain opportunities for employment, enterprise, and world-leading innovation.** The Annual Monitoring Report provides detailed analysis on how the Council's adopted planning policies have performed, and includes a number of indicators related to the Council's planning policies on employment and the wider effects of the LDF on the district including its economy.
21. **We will make sure that South Cambridgeshire continues to offer outstanding and sustainable quality of life for our residents.** The LDF aims to satisfy the development needs of the Cambridge Sub Region while preserving and enhancing its rich built and natural heritage and distinctive character and providing quality places where people are happy to live, work and play. The Annual Monitoring Report provides detailed analysis on how the Council's adopted planning policies have performed.

### Conclusions / Summary

22. Preparation of the new Local Plan has progressed largely in accordance with the timetable and public consultation on issues and options for the district took place between July and September 2012. Due to slippage in preparing and agreeing the evidence base for the Gypsy & Traveller DPD, a revised Local Development Scheme was adopted in January 2012 setting out the Council's intention to include any policies and proposals for Gypsy and Travellers within the new Local Plan.
23. The monitoring of the performance of the Council's planning policies has shown that development granted planning permission in the district is generally in accordance, or moving towards accordance, with the adopted planning policies. Issues and options

relating to planning policies that have been identified for review in recent Annual Monitoring Reports are being explored through the preparation of the new Local Plan.

**Background Papers:** the following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

South Cambridgeshire Local Development Framework: [www.scambs.gov.uk/ldf](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/ldf)

**Contact Officer:** Jenny Nuttycombe – Planning Policy Officer  
Telephone: (01954) 713184

Caroline Hunt – Local Development Framework Team Leader  
Telephone: (01954) 713196