

Summary: Local Plan Monitoring Findings 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

This summary sets out the key findings in the Authority Monitoring Report during the 2018-19 financial year. Overall, the Plan is performing moderately against key objectives set out in the Core Strategy. In light of changes to national planning guidance and the age of the adopted Core Strategy (adopted in 2013) performance is increasingly likely to deviate from overall targets and objectives. This is recognised through the work undertaken as part of a review of the Core Strategy, the new draft Local Plan consulted upon in autumn 2019.

National planning guidance continues to evolve shaping how planning policies are implemented. On July 18, 2018, the most significant change of the monitoring period occurred when the Government confirmed that local authorities should use 2014-based population projections to calculate housing need using its standards method. This reflects the continued ambition to see the number of new homes being completed each year across the country rise to 300,000. As a result, local authorities across the South East England where affordability is an important issue are likely to see increasing pressure to deliver new homes at a faster delivery rate than previously experienced.

Indicator Ref. No.	Description	Target	Result	Change since previous year  increase  decrease  constant
Housing				
H1	Housing trajectory data - plan period and housing targets; net additional dwellings for both market and affordable housing in previous years	A minimum of 6,500 homes 2006-2031, average of 260 units per annum until the 31 March 2019.	Total of 4,680 new homes between 2006/07 and 2018/19, an average of 369 units per annum.	N/A
H1	Net additional dwellings for the reporting year for	Maintaining an average of 260 net additional dwellings p.a.	268 homes in 2018/19	

	both market and affordable housing by LA			
H7	New and converted dwellings on PDL	80% residential development on PDL	82% in 2018/2019	⬇️
H8	Net additional pitches (gypsy and traveller)	20 Gypsy and Traveller pitches by 2021.	No additional pitches have been delivered.	↔️
H9	Housing mix of affordable housing completions	20% social rent 65% affordable rent 15% intermediate	0% social rent 79% affordable rent 21% Intermediate	⬇️ ⬆️ ⬆️
H10	Number of affordable housing completions and percentage of affordable homes on qualifying sites	35% affordable housing will be sought on major applications of 10 residential units and above (or sites of more than 0.5 ha)	Affordable housing made up 23.5% of all housing completions.	⬇️
Employment				
BD2	Total amount of additional employment floorspace completed on PDL	90%	100%	↔️
BD6¹	Total number of jobs	A minimum of 7,000 additional jobs in local authority area between 2006-2031	There is now 76,800 jobs in Watford, an increase of 15,700 jobs since 2006 – ahead of target	N/A

¹ It is difficult to identify jobs numbers and previous figures used for specific projects in the town does not give a full picture. Accordingly the EEFM is far more suitable measure of job growth.

BD6	Count of Active Enterprises In Watford	Increasing Trend	Not updated. Figure from 2018 used.	N/A
BD9	Qualifications of working age resident population	Increasing trend	There has been an increase from 83.5% to 87.7% in terms of the number of people with NVQ1 and above qualification	N/A
Sustainable Development				
S1	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency (EA) advice on flooding and water quality grounds	No planning permissions granted contrary to EA advice - any objections subsequently withdrawn following fulfilment of recommendations	None	
S2	Average water consumption (litres per head per day –l/h/d)	Reducing trend	Increase from 115.2 l/h/d in 2012/13 to 143.4 l/h/d in 2014/15. Most recent data suggests a figure of 150 l/h/d.	
S4	Per capita CO2 emissions in LA	Reducing trend	No updates from 2016, 3.8 kt CO2 per capita	N/A
S5	Air Quality and Air Management Areas	Improvement in quality	Averages have remained fairly constant in recent years with some increases and exceedances of objectives in some cases. General improvement in air pollution identified.	
Green Infrastructure				

GI2	Amount of open space managed to Green Flag award standard	Maintain the amount of open space managed to Green Flag award standard.	Increased to 146 hectares, with addition of Harwoods Recreation Ground.	
GI3	Change in total open space	Maintain quantity and quality of open space	No change - 311.3 hectares	
Urban Design and Conservation				
UDC3	Conservation character area appraisals completed	100% by 31/3/2012 – appraisals to be updated every five years	100% achieved by 31/3/2012. No changes made, however, a number of buildings have been granted locally listed building status.	
UDC4	Conservation Area Management Plan	Consultation draft by 2013; aim is to review every five years	Final draft adopted July 2013	N/A
UDC5	Buildings on buildings at risk register	Decreasing trend desired from 2011/12 baseline survey with intention to update every five years – new survey of listed buildings at risk scheduled for 2017	No changes made to the register.	
Transport				
T3	Travel to work mode shares	Increasing use of cycling, walking, public transport and reduction in travel by car mode desired	Decrease of 5.9% between 2001 census and 2011 census in those travelling to work by car (to 54.6%	N/A

			from 60.5%) (However, note that TravelWise surveys from 2012 -2014 indicate that 81% of all people entering urban areas in Hertfordshire travel by car, a high proportion.)	
T5	Watford's cycle route usage	Increasing trend	Usage dropped slightly during 2015/16 (2.6%). Four Sites in Watford are monitored for cycle use – 2017/18 saw a reduction in cyclists on Hempstead Road, Ebury Way and Radlett Road. No new data available.	N/A