

REPORT TO	DATE OF MEETING
Planning Committee	07/12/2016

Report template revised June 2008



SUBJECT	PORTFOLIO	AUTHOR	ITEM
SOUTH RIBBLE LOCAL PLAN/CENTRAL LANCASHIRE CORE STRATEGY – 2016 MONITORING REPORTS	Strategic Planning	Paul Peckham	11

SUMMARY AND LINK TO CORPORATE PRIORITIES

The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 requires every local planning authority to produce a Monitoring Report (MR). In previous years, the MR had to be submitted to the Government Office for the North West prior to 31 December; however this is no longer a requirement.

The legal requirement to produce a monitoring report is written on the basis of there being policies in the Local Plan 2015 which can be monitored. The Central Lancashire Core Strategy was adopted in 2012, and is monitored as part of this report (copies of both the South Ribble Local Plan and the Central Lancashire Core Strategy Monitoring report are available in the member's room). The Local Plan (adopted 2015), Performance Monitoring Framework indicators are monitored as part of this MR. The Local Plan (2000) saved policies are no longer monitored as they have now been fully superseded by the Local Plan 2015.

This report seeks approval of the draft 2016 Monitoring Report (MR) which will then be published on the Council's website.

The Local Plan, to which this MR relates, makes a significant contribution to the corporate priorities of a clean, green and safe environment and a thriving and prosperous borough.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the draft Monitoring Report be approved for publication on the Council's website. Any changes agreed by the committee will be incorporated into the monitoring report prior to publication.

DETAILS AND REASONING

Monitoring is a key feature of the new development plan system introduced by the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. The Regulations require each local authority to produce a Monitoring Report (MR). This is the eleventh Monitoring Report to be produced by the Council and covers the period 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016. This document should be published on the Council's website as soon as possible after approval.

MR's should cover the following matters:

- Report progress against the timetable and milestones set out in the Local Development Scheme which is in operation in the period covered by the MR;

- Assess how policies are being implemented and
- Identify whether policies need to be amended or replaced.

The Local Development Scheme in operation during the monitoring period was published in April 2015. Progress can be summarised as:

- The Site Allocations DPD (now called the Local Plan) was adopted in July 2015;
- Work on the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment has been completed, and further work is being carried out;
- The Biodiversity and Nature Conservation SPD was adopted in July 2015;
- A revised LDS with a new timetable for production of the LDF documents was published in April 2015.

The MR reports on some contextual indicators for the Local Plan 2015 which provides a broad picture of the social, economic and environmental circumstances in the borough. They establish a baseline position from which change can be measured and are selected to reflect key characteristics and issues in South Ribble.

Some of the indicators cannot be updated on an annual basis. From those that can, the following can be reported:

- Unemployment levels are consistently below both the Lancashire and National average;
- There are 372 Tree Preservation Orders in the borough and
- The population of the borough has risen slightly.

Some key findings for the monitoring period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016 are:

- The total number of housing completions was 371 dwellings.
- There have been 150 affordable dwellings completed. This is an increase on the 2014/2015 figure of over 50% and is significantly above the target of 30 per annum set out in the Central Lancashire Core Strategy, and
- Our three parks with Green Flag status have retained the award.

This MR also reports on progress against the Core Strategy Monitoring indicators. Many of the indicators are already covered in the Local Plan 2015 Monitoring Framework. Some key findings from the Core Strategy Monitoring indicators which haven't been covered elsewhere:

- The total of 413 affordable dwellings delivered across Central Lancashire exceeded the Core Strategy overall target of 126 dwellings by 287 dwellings;
- The total number of dwellings completed was 1,363 in all three authorities which is 22 units above the target of 1,341 set in the Core Strategy;
- Employment land take up is below the Core Strategy target however steps have been taken to manage the delivery of employment land in order to promote development and the total employment land take-up in the Central Lancashire area as a whole has increased significantly compared with last year.

NEXT STAGE

The draft MR is required to be published on the Council's website as soon as possible, once approved by the Committee.

In reporting on output and contextual indicators, the MR will be a source document for the monitoring of objectives, targets and indicators for the Core Strategy, the Local Plan (2015) and other development plan documents.

WIDER IMPLICATIONS

In the preparation of this report, consideration has been given to the impact of its proposals in all the areas listed below, and the table shows any implications in respect of each of these. The risk assessment which has been carried out forms part of the background paper to the report.

FINANCIAL	None directly arising from this report.
LEGAL	Failure to produce an MR would be contrary to the requirements of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.
RISK	A risk assessment was undertaken as part of the Local Development Scheme, and is subject to annual review.
THE IMPACT ON EQUALITY	None.
OTHER (see below)	None.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.
Local Development Framework Monitoring: A Good Practice Guide.
South Ribble Local Development Scheme April 2015.
Central Lancashire Adopted Core Strategy Performance Monitoring Framework July 2012.
South Ribble Local Plan, adopted July 2015. Performance Monitoring Framework.