

Chapter 12 Monitoring

CORPORATE PLANNING OBJECTIVES

- M1** In accordance with the plan, monitor, manage regime the Council will facilitate the timely provision of accurate and relevant monitoring of development plan policies to ensure that the policies are working effectively.
- M2** Where monitoring reveals a change likely to affect the aims of the Plan, the Council will review the relevant policies and publish appropriate revisions as required.

INTRODUCTION

- 11.1 The Plan sets out the District's proposals up until the year 2011. It is inevitable that issues will emerge whose implications will need to be considered during the plan period. Many of these issues will be of minor concern; however, where significant issues emerge that may affect any of the key objectives or proposals, the Council will assess the implications and consider the need for amendments to the Plan. These will be subject to public comment.
- 11.2 In order to keep track of the changes that may occur during the plan period and to assess how successfully the plan is attaining its aims, a number of regular checks or monitoring exercises will take place. The introduction of the 'Plan, Monitor, Manage' regime (PPG11) has highlighted the importance of effective monitoring as an integral part of the planning process. At the same time new policy targets (such as for the re-use of previously-developed land), and new policy approaches (for example, the sequential approach) demand that monitoring becomes more sophisticated in the extent and detail of information captured.
- 11.3 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill introduced in the House of Commons in December 2002, intends that local plans will be replaced by local development documents (LDDs). Local planning authorities will be required to prepare and maintain a local development scheme which will set out what LDDs the authority intends to prepare, their timetable for preparation and whether they are to be prepared jointly with one or more other authorities. The earliest date for commencement of the provisions of the new Planning Act is likely to be Spring 2004. The draft plan, once adopted, will be 'saved' for three years from commencement of the new Act. During this three-year period, the local authority will bring forward new LDDs to progressively replace the policies in the 'saved' plan.
- 11.4 The Department of Environment Transport and Regions (DETR) has developed a set of national best value performance indicators to assess the effectiveness of Local Planning Authorities in delivering their policies.
- 11.5 Rochford District Council is a member of the Essex Monitoring Group, which was set up and first met in May 2002. This countywide group was formed as a forum for discussions relating to the monitoring process; to promote good practice in plan monitoring; to facilitate the timely provision of accurate and relevant monitoring information and to share and co-ordinate data.

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- 11.6 The Council will monitor the key indicators listed below. Other measures may be added during the lifetime of the Plan. It is important to note that the monitoring information, received/obtained from these indicators, will be continual and will help to inform the formation of the forthcoming LDD.
- 11.7 In accordance with Agenda 21 the Council has consulted with the community and produced a plan for sustainability for the 21st century; a Local Agenda 21 (LA21). The key principles outlined in the LA21 document are embodied in this local plan.
- 11.8 It is the intention to report annually on the following criteria:

EMPLOYMENT

- industrial land availability, and in particular take up of employment land; areas implemented; areas with/without planning permission
- details of vacant industrial and commercial premises to include floorspace and rental levels

HOUSING

Residential land availability, in particular:

- number of completions per annum
- type of dwellings completed
- percentage of completions on previously developed land
- percentage of completions on greenfield sites
- number of dwellings on windfall sites
- number of planning consents granted
- number of affordable homes completed
- number of conversions, change of use and demolitions

TRANSPORT

- car-parking standards (both over and under provision compared with adopted standards SPG2)
- accessibility standards for major development sites

RETAIL AND LEISURE

- number and type of retail and service uses
- number of vacant units within town centres
- provision of sports and leisure facilities
- safeguard existing open space
- support tourism

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

- diversification from agriculture
- appropriate development in the Green Belt

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ENVIRONMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Loss of agricultural land to built development• listed buildings - number, type and 'at risk'
BIODIVERSITY AND NATURE CONSERVATION <ul style="list-style-type: none">• changes in number of regionally distinctive species• areas of regionally distinctive habitats• community forest cover
APPEAL DECISIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• percentage of appeals allowed and dismissed.
POLICY IMPLEMENTATION <ul style="list-style-type: none">• decisions overturned at Committee contrary to recommendations and any subsequent appeal decisions. This is important as the policies of the Local Plan are used for development control purposes. If applications are determined contrary to policy then this may highlight need for revision of the policies.

11.9 The following policy embodies the Local Planning Authority's position with regard to monitoring.

POLICY M1 - MONITORING The council will monitor the effectiveness of the Plan's policies and proposals on an annual basis in accordance with plan, monitor, manage principles.
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READING LIST AND USEFUL LINKS

11.10 In preparing the policies and proposals in this chapter of the local plan account has been taken of the advice and guidance in a wide range of documents and publications. A list of these is provided below together with details of links to organisations that provide useful information about employment development on the web.

DOCUMENTS

PPG11 (Regional Planning)
PPG12 (Development Plans)

WEBSITES

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister - <http://www.odpm.gov.uk>
Parliamentary Bills - <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/pabills.htm>
Royal Town Planning Institute - <http://rtpi.org.uk>