

# Authority Monitoring Report 2022-2023

Report of the Head of Planning Policy and Economic Development

## Recommended:

**That OSCOM notes and endorses Test Valley Borough Council's Authority Monitoring Report for 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 (Annex 1 to the report).**

### SUMMARY:

This report considers the findings from this year's annual Authority Monitoring Report 2022/23. Since the end of March 2023, there have been further developments within the Borough. Therefore, the document also includes summary updates where appropriate on relevant planning policy documents and data that have occurred between 1 April 2023 and 31 October 2023

## 1 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to outline the Council's latest Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) (Annex 1 to the report). The AMR reviews the effectiveness of the Council's planning policies and helps us to ensure that progress is being made towards achieving the objectives set out in the Local Plan. The AMR is a statistical document, it is not for the AMR to provide commentary or solutions to issues, but to help guide the direction of travel for future corporate and planning policy.
- 1.2 The AMR reporting year covers the previous financial year. There is a delay between publication and the end of the reporting year, due to the period for data collection, as well as waiting on data gathering and reporting from other external bodies. To help keep the information up to date, the AMR also aims to highlight any recent further developments that have happened since the end of the reporting period.
- 1.3 The latest AMR covers the reporting period of the financial year 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023. This report is the nineteenth monitoring report for the Borough. The latest AMR will be published on the Council's website.
- 1.4 At the time of writing, there are gaps in certain sections within the document (as highlighted in the annex) that will be included in the published version of the AMR, once the information is made available.

## **2 Background**

- 2.1 The Authority Monitoring Report has been prepared in line with section 35 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended). Local Authorities are no longer required to submit their monitoring reports to the Secretary of State. However, the Council has a duty to continue monitoring and collecting data.
- 2.2 Part 8 of the Town and Country Planning Regulations 2012 sets out the content of what must be covered within an AMR. AMRs are designed to monitor the performance of planning policies in the area in which they apply. The AMR is formed of two elements: a) monitoring the progress of the Local Development Scheme (LDS) and b) monitoring the performance of the Local Plan planning policies in the Borough.

## **3 Monitoring of the Local Development Scheme (LDS)**

- 3.1 The draft Local Plan 2040 Regulation 18 Stage 1 was published for public consultation in February 2022. This is the third stage in the preparation of the next local plan after two public consultations on our Issues and Options consultation (2018) and Refined Issues and Options Consultation (2020). The public consultation period ran from 11 February – 8 April 2022 and the Council is now considering the responses and preparing for Regulation 18 Stage 2.
- 3.2 An updated Local Development Scheme was approved by the Cabinet on 15 November 2023. The next stage, Regulation 18 Stage 2 is now timetabled for 2024 Q1 and the Council is on course for this.
- 3.3 An updated Infrastructure and Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) has been produced. It was adopted on the 7 June 2023 following public consultation held between 4 November and 16 December 2022. The purpose of the SPD is to; explain the Council's approach to using planning obligations to local residents, developers and the wider community; explain the circumstances under which the Council will collect Section 106 contributions to mitigate the impacts of a development on infrastructure; provide applicants with greater certainty on when planning obligations will be sought.
- 3.4 The Council published for public participation its draft Public Realm Design Guide (PRDG) Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) 2022 and a public consultation was held between Friday 16 December 2022 and Friday 3 February 2023. The PRDG SPD was adopted on 12 April 2023. The Andover Town Centre Public Realm Design Guide is aimed at those who either develop, improve, or alter the public streets and spaces in Andover Town Centre. The Design Guide is concerned with issues such as movement, pedestrian and cycle infrastructure, traffic calming measures, use of space for events, the introduction of green and blue spaces, street furniture, materials, integration of facilities such as EV charging points etc.

- 3.5 There are currently 19 designated neighbourhood areas in the Borough. The Borough now has eight 'made' neighbourhood plans: Kings Somborne ('made' on 9 November 2023). Goodworth Clatford, Thruxton, Upper Clatford, Chilbolton, Charlton, West Dean and West Tytherley and Houghton Neighbourhood Plans, which were all approved following community referendum. There are a further 13 neighbourhood plans that are underway in the Borough.

#### **4 Monitoring the Local Plan**

- 4.1 The Localism Act 2011 enables local authorities to choose what targets and indicators to include in their monitoring, whilst ensuring that they are presented in accordance with relevant UK and 'retained EU law' which is now part of domestic legislation.
- 4.2 The AMR includes three types of indicators: a) Contextual Indicators, which help describe the general context of the local planning authority area e.g. resident population; b) Core Output Indicators, which were those previously identified by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) (Now Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC)) and which formerly needed to be reported on by all local planning authorities to give a consistent assessment of the impact of planning policy implementation; and c) Local Output Indicators, which are identified by the Council itself, as they are specific to the local authority to help monitor aspects of local planning policy, not covered by the Core Indicators.
- 4.3 Part Two of the AMR is structured to follow the Local Plan chapters for ease of reference. The general themes which emerge for the indicators are set out below.
- 4.4 To assist with monitoring and identifying long term trends, each target within the AMR will have a 'traffic light' system to indicate how well the Council has done in achieving the target set out. Please see Appendix 1 of the AMR, for the list of all core indicators and the latest performance position.
- 4.5 The Core Indicators record housing completions, percentage on previously developed land (PDL), net additional pitches (Gypsy and Traveller) and affordable housing completions.
- 4.6 The AMR monitors a number of local indicators, including public open space provision, recycling and performance of town centres based on monitoring ground floor frontage occupancy.

#### **5 Conclusions**

- 5.1 The Borough is continuing to perform well in a number of areas, in context of Output Indicators as shown in Appendix 1 of the AMR.
- 5.2 The AMR will be published on the Council's website.
- 5.3 The committee are requested to note and endorse the content of the report.

Background Papers (Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D)

None

Confidentiality

It is considered that this report does not contain exempt information within the meaning of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, and can be made public.

No of Annexes:	1		
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File Ref:	pp1.3		
Report to:	OSCOM	Date:	3 January 2024