
**THIRD CARDIFF LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN ANNUAL MONITORING
REPORT**

Reason for the Report

1. To provide a short briefing to Members on the content of a Cabinet report titled 'Third Cardiff Local Development Plan Annual Monitoring Report' that is due to be presented to Cabinet at its meeting on Thursday 26th September 2019. Members are asked to note the content of this item and discuss any future actions relating to this report.
2. A copy of the 'Cardiff Local Development Plan 2006 to 2026 – 3rd Annual Monitoring Report – October 2019' is attached to this report respectively as **Appendix 1 (report to follow)**.

Background

3. The Cardiff Local Development Plan 2006 to 2026 (LDP) was formally adopted by the Council on 28th January 2016. As part of the statutory development plan process the Council is required to prepare an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) and submit to Welsh Government by the 31st October each year after Plan adoption.
4. This is the third AMR to be prepared since the adoption of the plan and is based on the period 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019. The AMR consists of the following sections:
 - Executive Summary;
 - Introduction;
 - Contextual Information – changes to policy framework at a national or local level;

- LDP Monitoring Process – explains the monitoring process undertaken;
 - LDP Monitoring Indicators – reporting on the 107 LDP monitoring indicators which were agreed during the LDP examination process and set out in the Inspectors Report;
 - Sustainability Appraisal Monitoring – reporting on the 28 sustainability monitoring indicators;
 - Conclusions and recommendations – setting out an overall overview of all indicators and Plan performance in the first year following adoption.
5. This is the third year the LDP has been operative and this AMR provides a three year short-term position statement. It also provides a comparison with the baseline data provided by the previously published AMR's.
6. The report will help inform the extent to which the LDP strategy, objectives and policies are being achieved. Importantly, the findings of this monitoring work will directly help to inform the LDP review process as the Council is required to undertake a major review of the LDP four years after adoption in 2020.

The AMR Report

7. Overall the findings of the third AMR are generally viewed as positive, with the majority of the indicators shown as green indicating that the majority of LDP policies are being implemented effectively. A summary of performance against the main Plan topics are set out in this report, with **Appendix 1 (report to follow)** setting out the data and conclusions in more detail.
8. **Employment** – Monitoring data shows continuing strong performance. Of particular importance is data regarding net job creation. There is a requirement for 40,000 new jobs over the plan period 2006-2026. 20,900 jobs were created between 2006 and 2015 and therefore the target for the remaining plan period is 19,100 jobs or 1,750 jobs annually. Since the first AMR (16/17) the number of jobs has been steadily increasing and the latest AMR shows an increase of 6,000 jobs since April 2018.
9. **Housing** – Monitoring data shows new homes have now started to be completed on many of the LDP Strategic Sites. Specifically, there are new completions on three of the Strategic Sites:

- 511 completions have been achieved at St Ederyns Village (just short of the 515 target included in the AMR);
 - 167 completions have been achieved on the North West Cardiff Strategic site, which has three separate outlets underway with more planned in the near future;
 - 51 completions have been recorded on the North East Cardiff Strategic site and construction is underway at Churchlands.
10. Although these rates are below the targets set out in the AMR it is now evident that the Plan-led approach is now starting to successfully drive the delivery of new homes at a level not seen for the last 10 years. The 1,444 completions in 2018/19 (43% higher than 2017/18) contrast with the previous 9 years where completions averaged 725 units per annum, with no year above 1,000 units for this period.
11. The data on housing delivery demonstrates the ‘lag’ between Plan adoption and homes being completed on new sites allocated in the Plan. Due to a combination of site assembly, legal and logistical factors experienced by landowners/developers along with the time required to secure the necessary planning and adoption consents, trajectories of delivery are slower than originally anticipated. This includes time spent securing the accompanying Section 106 Agreements which fully deliver the Council’s aspirations as set out in the LDP. Overall, over the 13 years between 2006 and 2019 a total of 16,521 new dwellings were built in Cardiff which represents 40% of the overall dwelling requirement.
12. However, construction has now started or is about to start on most of the strategic housing sites following the master planning and infrastructure plans approach as set out in the plan and it is therefore expected that housing completions over the remaining seven years of the Plan period will increase significantly.
13. **Affordable Housing** - In terms of the delivery of affordable housing, the plan sets a target for the delivery of 6,646 affordable units to be provided for the 12 years between 2014 and 2026, with an interim target in the AMR to provide 1,942 affordable dwellings by 2019.

14. Monitoring data indicates that at 2019, 1,082 affordable units had been delivered which represents 25% of overall completions. Whilst this is less than the numerical target, as highlighted above it reflects the slower than anticipated progress in the strategic housing allocations being delivered. Given the low overall completion rates over previous years, it would be unrealistic in these circumstances to expect any significantly higher affordable housing contribution which inevitably reflects a percentage of the overall number of completions. As set out above, construction has now started or is about to start on most of the strategic housing sites following the master planning and infrastructure plans approach as set out in the plan and it is therefore expected that affordable housing completions over the remaining seven years of the Plan period will increase significantly.
15. **Transportation** - Data collected in relation to travel by sustainable modes is reflecting the fluctuations as shown in past trends over the last 10 years. This demonstrates that sustainable travel trends have continued to increase over the last 10 years for both work and shopping, although for leisure and education the trends show a slight decrease.
16. There has been a positive outturn in sustainable travel over the past year, with the target 1% increase having been achieved for each of the journey purposes, with significant growth in particular evident for journeys to Work (+5.3% mode-shift). In terms of sustainable travel modes, significant progress has been made in meeting cycling targets for all journey purposes with cycling to work in particular having experienced substantial growth in the past one year period (+3.7%). Train use has very slightly declined over the past year for work and education but the 10 year trend shows a significant increase. Walking has increase over the last year for all journey purposes with a fluctuating longer term trend. Bus use has decreased for education, shopping and leisure, reflecting a longer term downward trend.
17. At this juncture, without the significant roll-out of new houses and provision of supporting sustainable transportation infrastructure, the early stage of Metro delivery together with the ongoing implementation of wider Council initiatives, it is too early to draw any firm conclusions with regard to policy delivery, particularly given that the 50:50 modal split target relates to 2026. Future AMR's will provide formal regular annual updates. However, the masterplanning approach together with section 106

Agreements already secured will enhance the phased future provision of supporting transportation infrastructure along with other measures such as increased frequency of public transport services and provision of bus passes to new residents.

18. **Gypsy and Traveller Sites** - Work is progressing the identification of sites to meet the evidenced need for permanent and transit Gypsy and Traveller sites. This has included discussions with the Welsh Government and work continues to secure appropriate outcomes. In terms of transit sites, it is considered that these would best be considered on a regional basis, requiring collaboration with neighbouring local authorities through the LDP revision process.
19. **Supplementary Planning Guidance** – Significant progress has been made in producing a programme of new Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) and since adoption of the LDP 18 SPGs have been approved by Council to support the policies in the adopted Plan and the Cardiff Infrastructure Plan is currently being updated.
20. **Contextual Changes** – The contextual review highlights significant changes in the national planning policy framework which has evolved significantly over the last three monitoring periods. In particular, Planning Policy Wales (PPW, Edition 10, December 2018) which in turn responds to the Well-being of Future Generations Act, 2015 have made significant changes to the high-level policy framework.

Conclusions

21. Section 7 of the AMR provides the conclusions and recommendations of this third AMR which provides a comparison with the baseline data provided by the first and second AMRs published in 2017 and 2018. The key Council conclusions in the third year of reporting, are that good progress is generally being made in delivering the identified targets and monitoring outcomes with the identified lag in housing delivery now showing strong signs of enhanced completions.

Next Steps

22. It is a requirement that AMRs must be submitted every year to Welsh Government until any Replacement/Revised LPs are adopted. Therefore, the fourth AMR in respect of the Cardiff LDP will be presented to Cabinet at the same time next year, with the broad structure of the AMR remaining the same from year to year in order to

provide ease of analysis between successive reports. Future AMR reports will be used to help inform the review process.

23. The AMR will be placed on the Council's website for information.

Way Forward

24. Councillor Caro Wild, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning & Transport has been invited to attend for this item. He will be supported by officers from the Planning, Transport & Environment Directorate.

Legal Implications

25. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

Financial Implications

26. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to

Cabinet/Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is recommended to:

- (i) Consider the information in this report and the information presented at the meeting;
- (ii) Determine whether they would like to make any comments, observations or recommendations to the Cabinet on this matter; and,
- (iii) Decide the way forward for any future scrutiny of the issues discussed.

DAVINA FIORE

Director of Governance & Legal Services

11th September 2019